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ZERO OPTION SEEN BEHIND REAGAN'S OPEN LETTER

Appeal 'Empty Rhetoric'

LD032143 Moscow Domestic Televisio Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Hello, comrades. As yesterday, the main theme of comment in the papers, radio and television of foreign countries is the replies of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov to the questions from a PRAVDA correspondent. Articles and commentaries are devoted to this theme by practically all organs of the foreign press. I shall not attempt to quote from such commentaries; there are literally hundreds of them. But I shall try to generalize about the main contents.

The first thing that catches the eye is the fact that the precise position of the Soviet leader, with no ambiguities whatsoever, regarding the problem of medium-range nuclear missiles has created a very great impression throughout the world. Today's commentaries note that on the one hand, the Soviet Union has again confirmed its willingness to come to mutually acceptable agreements on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security of the sides, and on the other, unambiguously stressed the total unacceptability for the Soviet Union of Reagan's notorious zero option. Most commentators quote Comrade Andropov's statement that the Soviet Union will not undertake unilateral disarmament. If matters go as far as the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe, we shall respond to this in a suitable manner. But this would not be our choice.

Concerning the appeal by the U.S. President to the peoples of Europe in which he proposed that the Soviet Union and the United States sign, on American conditions, an agreement to scrap land-based medium-range missiles, many political observers agree that this is not a constructive proposal which could form the basis for serious negotiations, but purely a propaganda gesture. The same aim, in the opinion of political observers, is being pursued in the President's sensationalized appeal for an immediate meeting between Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and Ronald Reagan to sign the agreement proposed by the Americans. This proposal, which is restricted by conditions that are known to be unacceptable, as many commentators point out today, is no more than a gesture made for effect, aimed at leading world public opinion astray. Forgetting about gestures, but really to come to the point, if Washington wants real progress in the Soviet-American talks, its leading figures, instead of clinging to the notorious zero option which is known to be unacceptable, ought to reply to the question: Are they ready seriously to discuss the considered and realistic proposals of the Soviet Union?

An NBC television commentator spoke out quite frankly about the aims being pursued by the U.S. President in sending Vice President Bush on a tour of Western Europe, and in making public his appeal through Bush. In his foreign policy statements, the American television commentator says, the Soviet leader Andropov has got the upper hand over President Reagan by coming out in favor of a compromise at the talks. Reagan now has to convince the Europeans that he is not a rascal who is preventing the achievement of an agreement and that his administration wants such an agreement. But the observer adds that to achieve this aim, Reagan would have to withdraw from his zero option.

Ever since Vice President Bush, to everyone's surprise, pulled from his pocket the text of the President's appeal to the peoples of Europe during his speech in West Berlin and read it to those assembled, this has been deliberately sensationalized by the Western mass media. [shots of Bush delivering Berlin speech] However, already the impression has been created that the planned sensation did not take place. Washington did not succeed, according to what the papers are writing today, in taking the diplomatic initiative away from the Soviet Union.

From the very beginning, even American observers were forced to admit that there was nothing new or to any extent impressive in this loudly presented initiative of the White House. NBC State Department correspondent Marvin Kalb noted: The current proposal is really not a new one since the President continues to insist on the zero option. The President addressed his open letter to the peoples of Europe, but he did not send a similar letter by diplomatic channels to Andropov proposing a meeting. All this is propaganda. This is no more than an attempt by the administration to win the support of public opinion in Europe.

The West European press comment today is couched in the same spirit. For instance, a spokesman for the Netherlands Foreign Ministry -- Bush visited the Netherlands after the FRG -- described the President's appeal as a blatant piece of advertising, undertaken over the heads of those taking part in the talks in Geneva. Well, advertising is of course a good thing, but for commerce, not for politics. President Reagan in his appeal to the peoples of Europe, set out on the raod of empty rhetoric. It would, by the way, be fully in order to ask the White House if its incumbent really is as he assures us, ready to meet Comrade Andropov at any time. Is he ready to demonstrate a realistic approach and sign the well-thought-out and just provisions of the agreement proposed by the Soviet Union, based on the principle of equal security of the sides? Comparing the pretentious appeal from Washington to the peoples of Europe with the constructive and businesslike tone of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies to the PRAVDA correspondent, most commentators agree today that the latest action of the White House does not justify the hopes placed on it.

No More Than 'Propaganda Maneuver'

LD040010 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1830 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] In his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov pointed out a real way to achieve progress at the talks in Geneva, the Czechoslovak paper RUDE PRAVO writes. The Soviet leader, the Italian CIORNO says, feels that Reagan's proposal for a summit meeting is not serious if the aim of such a meeting is the signing of an agreement based on the zero option. The U.S. President's proposal is no more than a propaganda maneuver, and that is why it was so quickly rejected, the American paper THE LOS ANGELES TIMES writes. Here is political observer Lev Novikov:

Analyzing the reactions to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies coming from all countries of the world, one may draw a very definite conclusion. The world public, primarily the European public, of course, opposes Reagan's zero. Let us recall that U.S. President Ronald Reagan proposed to the Soviet Union the signing of an agreement on scrapping medium-range missiles in Europe on American conditions -- that is, our country was to scrap all its missiles in the European part of the country, and in that case the American missiles would not be deployed in Europe.

Since Britain and France already have a considerable number of medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads, only our country and the Warsaw Treaty as a whole would be left with zero, while the North Atlantic bloc would be quite well armed. In reply to this, Comrade Andropov declared categorically: The Soviet Union will not disarm unilaterally. This thought is commented on in the West as being primarily fair. Michael Foot, leader of the British Labor Party, for instance, said that Reagan's zero option proposal is unrealistic, and the appeal by the chief of the White House to the peoples of Europe is really the very lowest sort of propaganda designed to mislead millions of inhabitants of Western Europe.

The French press, too, sees Reagan's appeal as purely a propaganda act, as an attempt to seize the initiative from the Soviet Union. The paper LE MATIN, for instance, writes that Reagan's main aim was not a search for agreement with the Soviet Union on the questions which concern the world public, but an attempt to score a point in the struggle. The French -- and not only the French -- press explains to its readers that it is not a matter of the Soviet side's rejection of the principle of Soviet-American summit meetings and of the search for mutually acceptable solutions, as Washington tries to present it, but rather, as the paper FIGARO stresses, that the Soviet Union refuses to put its signature to an agreement which is not serious and not acceptable to it, which the Reagan administration is trying to force on it in a blatantly cynical form. Either zero for both sides, or arms reduction, but on an equal basis, if there is so far no other solution of the question.

Up to today, the United States has made no response to this proposal by the Soviet Union -- clear and realistic, based on the principle of equal security for the sides -- and this can only be regretted. In the United States itself, the general public takes a critical attitude toward the White House's attempts to defend President Reagan's shaky position. When one of the journalists asked a State Department spokesman if he felt that the proposal by the American President for a meeting to sign an agreement of a sort which had long ago been rejected by the Soviet side was really serious, the spokesman was confused and said nothing for along time. This made the journalist laugh. But it is no laughing matter for Europe. Therefore it is primarily Europe which rejects Reagan's zero, because it does not solve the problem but only tightens the noose around Europe's neck.

'Clumsy Attempt' To Sell Option

LD032025 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The Western press carries animated comment on Comrade Andropov's replies to a PRAVDA correspondent in connection with U.S. President Reagan's message to the peoples of Europe. Here is the latest comment from international affairsjournalist Spartak Beglov.

Numerous foreign comments make it possible to assume that the European public has already passed its sentence on the White House message as a clumsy attempt to sell the old zero option in a new wrapping. Hoping to create an optical illusion for millions of people, the U.S. Administration claims that it is prepared, allegedly, to eliminate a whole point of this trick is for the stunned public not to notice a whole arsenal of Western methods for the same purpose -- over 700 air and sea-borne nuclear-weapons delivery vehicles belonging to the United States and some 260 nuclear missiles and aircraft belonging to Britain and France. On the one hand, they exist. On the other hand, it is now proposed that they be viewed as if nonexistent and not to be touched.

However, the problem is too serious to become the subject of propaganda tricks. At the same time the European public has weighty grounds to air its opinion on the widely advertised trip to Western Europe of Vice President Bush, who has brought with him Reagan's message. On the eve of the trip it was hinted in Washington that the vice president will be instructed to show the preparedness of the United States to seriously examine the new Soviet initiatives. The disillusionment which has seized the West Europeans, whose expectations were dashed in the most unceremonious fashion, is understandable.

In light of this, Comrade Andropov's replies to a PRAVDA correspondent received a special international response as an example of a serious, businesslike approach to seeking an agreement on nuclear disarmament in Europe on the basis of principles of equality and equal securty.

Zero Option 'Patently Unacceptable'

LD031645 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 2 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] [intercepted in progress] The Soviet leader feels that President Reagan lacks seriousness in his attitude toward the summit meeting, making it conditional upon American terms. By insisting on the zero option, the newspaper goes on, Washington is blocking progress at the Geneva talks.

A number of observers note that President Reagan's so-called appeal to the people of Europe is basically the same notorious zero option in a slightly renovated form. Reagan proposed that the Soviet Union should unilaterally scrap all its medium-range missiles while the United States and its NATO allies keep all their nuclear weapons of that class. In other words, it is again a matter of unilateral disarmament by our country. That option is patently unacceptable for the Soviet Union, and that is well understood by the U.S. Administration. President Reagan's message was read out by Vice President George Bush during his speech in West Berlin, and before he set out on his West European tour a U.S. Administration spokesman had said Bush is taking nothing new with him to Europe. The impression one gets is that the Reagan proposal is no more than a promotional device to mislead public opinion in the West. The very form in which it was delivered shows that Washington sees its proposal as a propaganda move. It was made circumventing the official Geneva talks.

The British newspaper THE GUARDIAN notes significantly that the Reagan appeal has not reassured but on the contrary alarmed the West Europeans. It has become a kind of political boomerang for Washington. At the same time, many observers stress that the Soviet Union is ready to sign an agreement with the United States based on the principle of equality and equal security. They single out the words of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov to the effect that a meeting between the leaders of the USSR and the United States aimed at finding a mutually acceptable solution to urgent problems would be useful for the Soviet Union and the United States, for Europe and the whole world.

Western Media Cited

LD021802 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] London February 2 TASS -- One could hardly have expected any other reaction from the Soviet leadership to the "open letter to the people of Europe" from President Ronald Reagan, the London TIMES writes today in its comments on the replies of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to questions from PRAVDA correspondent. The head of the U.S. Administration should have first addressed directly the USSR with its proposal of a summit. In addition, according to the newspaper, it is an obvious error of the strategy of the U.S. President that he not merely put forward the idea of such a contact but made the condition obliging the Soviet Union to sign an agreement the main clause of which had already been rejected. All this indicates that President Reagan wanted to launch a propaganda campaign rather than to facilitate the constructive completion of the disarmament talks, the newspaper points out.

The newspaper GUARDIAN writes today that the "letter to the people of Europe" from President Ronald Reagan, far from reassuring the Europeans, worried them because they are now doubtful about the sincerity of the intentions of the U.S. Administration to conclude an agreement with the Soviet Union on the removal of ground-launched medium-range missiles.

New York February 2 TASS -- The Soviet leader has not turned down the meeting offered by President Reagan but rejected the terms proposed by the U.S. President for the summit, an ABC commentator has said today. The proposal of a meeting which has been made conditional on the decision on arms reductions that is unacceptable to Moscow does not at all indicate a serious approach of the U.S. leadership to this matter as a whole.

THE NEW YORK TIMES points out in an article filed from The Hague that Ronald Reagan's call for a meeting with Yuriy Andropov to sign an agreement to remove ground-launched medium-range missiles is characterised in Western Europe as a downright propaganda action. Moreover, the U.S. President's proposal is viewed as tactical counter-play rather than a proposal which may encourage progress towards nuclear arms reductions.

Paris February 2 TASS -- The Soviet leader has turned down the U.S. President's proposal on signing an agreement to remove ground-launched medium-range missiles from Europe, the newspaper QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS writes today. The White House's proposal actually is the self-same "zero option." A Soviet-American summit, according to the newspaper, is very important for resolving outstanding problems but the terms offered by the U.S. for this meeting do not show that the U.S. Administration approaches the matter in a serious way.

U.S. REJECTION OF ARMS-FREE ZONE IN EUROPE VIEWED

LD021832 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Pavel Kuznetsov commentary]

[Text] Last Friday the U.S. State Department rejected as unrealistic and unacceptable a Soviet proposal for a zone in central Europe in which battlefield nuclear weapons would be banned. In fact what the State Department rejected was not a Soviet proposal but a reply to an offer from the Swedish Government for such a zone. In its reply, the Soviet Union said that a zone extending 150 km to either side of the line separating the Warsaw Treaty and NATO -- that is, the Swedish proposal -- if not enough, and that a wider zone, from 250 to 300 km east and west of that line would be better. So initially the idea belonged to the Swedish Government, not the Soviet.

As far as I know, the United States is not a European nation, but it was the first in the West to reject the idea of a zone free of battlefield nuclear weapons. Why is a North American country against a nuclear free zone in Europe? According to State Department spokesman John Hughes: We are concerned that such proposals can only divert attention from the serious efforts we are making to reduce conventional and nuclear weapons in Europe.

In other words, various Soviet peace proposals are bad because they divert attention from serious American efforts to reduce the level of military confrontation in Europe. What are these bad proposals? First of all, to rid Europe of all types of nuclear arms, both medium-range and tactical. Making Europe a nuclear free zone is a bad proposal. Another Soviet offer is to dismantle the military organizations of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty so as to have no conventional arms. And the latest Soviet move to widen the zone free of battlefield nuclear arms, which was proposed by Sweden, is also bad.

What about the serious American efforts? All that comes to mind since the Reagan administration took office 2 years ago is a scenario for a limited nuclear war in Europe and the notorious zero option. Which of them is more serious, I don't know. Both must be equally serious. The first reflects a serious hope that nuclear war can be limited to an area far away from American territory. The second is a serious illusion that unilateral Soviet disarmament is possible to achieve.

Nothing so far indicates that the Reagan administration makes serious efforts or takes concrete and serious steps to reduce the level of military confrontation in Europe, nuclear or conventional. When I hear about American officials being serious in their efforts to reduce weapons, I do not quite understand how we are going to have less of them if the American President wants to spend $1.6 trillion on them in the coming 5 years. And how do serious American efforts to preserve peace square with the Pentagon's document urging the United States to prevail in a prolonged nuclear war with the Soviet Union?

The 1984 budget announced by President Reagan on Monday contains a $30 billion increase in military spending. It is 14 percent up compared with the current budget. These people are dead serious -- about the arms race.

GENERAL DEBATES AT GENEVA DISARMAMENT SESSION

LD032225 Moscow TASS in English 2202 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 3, TASS -- The general debates started at the Disarmament Committee show that the constructive stand of socialist states on questions of limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament, set forth in the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, meets with growing understanding among many nations.

Mexico's representative Alfonso Garcia Robles stressed the exceptional importance of the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe and on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments, saying that the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe will considerably enhance the risk of nuclear war.

The head of the Swedish delegation, Mai Britt Theorin, stressed that the best solution of the problem of limiting nuclear weapons in Europe would be their total elimination. She noted the importance of the Soviet Union's pledge never to be the first to use nuclear weapons and stressed her country's interest in the idea that all other nuclear states also assume the same pledge. Mai Britt Theorin drew attention to the Swedish Government's initiative on establishing in Europe a zone free of "battlefield nuclear weapons." It is known in the Disarmament Committee that socialist countries responded to the Swedish proposal in a constructive spirit, whereas in the West, especially in the United States, it encountered a sharply negative response.

Contrary to the constructive line of socialist, non-aligned and neutral countries in the Disarmament Committee, several Western nations led by the United States refuse to conduct talks on the basis of the priciple of equality and equal security. Thus, West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher tried to prove today that Reagan's "zero option" proposal for resolving the issue of medium-range missiles in Europe remains the best and fairest one.

The USSR's representative Viktor Israelyan stressed in his speech the futility of the attempts to reach accords in the field of disarmament in circumvention of the basic principle of equality and equal security. He convincingly showed that underlying the U.S. refusal to be guided by this principle is its desire to gain unilateral military advantages and achieve, in fact, unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

COMMENTARIES CONTINUE TO EXAMINE BUSH TOUR

'Falsity,' 'Hypocrisy' of U.S. Policy

LD031853 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 3 Feb 83

["Political Boomerang" -- TASS headline]

[Text] U.S. Vice-President Bush continues his political tour of the NATO countries. But he began it from the territory of West Berlin. It has become something of a ritual among U.S. officials to violate the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin by their appearance. The program for such visitors has been polished to perfection in Bonn, but it should be noted that the United States, too, put its signature under the document.

And now about the substance of G. Bush's statements which he keeps repeating in one Western European capital after another. There is no doubt -- and this follows from the vice-president's speeches -- that G. Bush's tour is after two clearly defined aims: to try to make U.S. NATO allies accept the U.S. plan for the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Western Europe and to play up the White House's demagoguery around the "zero option" as a plan that is allegedly in line with the aims of nuclear disarmament in Europe. Comparing the two, one ever more clearly feels the falsity and hypocrisy of the U.S. policy. When it comes to blackening the Soviet Union's policy the U.S. vice-president is never far behind other U.S. officials who would like to distract the attention of the public from the Soviet Union's consistent and constructive position at the Geneva talks.

On the eve of the U.S. vice-president's arrival the London FINANCIAL TIMES advised G. Bush to say something new in Europe so as to create at least a semblance that the U.S. Administration takes a reasonable and flexible stand, and at the same time not to depart a single iota from the present position of the United States and NATO. This is quite a trick, the FINANCIAL TIMES warned.

Well, one cannot but agree with such a conclusion.

The entire flood of G. Bush's speeches and statements is in the best traditions of American advertising. Arguments are improperly replaced with rude fabrications and undisguised hatred for socialist countries. He is full of scorn against the anti-war movement. And from his not too far-sighted position the simplest thing is to describe its members as "agents of Moscow". He evidently lacks the courage to recognize that hundreds of thousands of people are coming into the streets of European capitals demanding to prevent the deployment of lethal U.S. weapons in Europe for the simple reason that they are fighting for the right to live in peace and to ensure peace for their children.

One more thing is worth mentioning: the total ignorance which the White House shows when it makes digressions into the history of Marxism. In this respect the vice-president clearly tried to snatch the palm from the President himself.

Bush's statements come as a fresh proof that the U.S. Administration shows no slightest intention of achieving a mutually acceptable accord at the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. On the contrary, one clearly sees the desire to press ahead at any cost with the deployment of new U.S. Pershing-2 missiles and cruise missiles in Europe. If before G. Bush's tour some people had at least some illusions in this respect, his speeches definitely dispelled them. The much publicised letter addressed by R. Reagan to the people of Europe wasn't of much help either. A spokesman for the parliamentary grouping of the Dutch Christian Democratic Appeal Party T. Frinking rightly pointed out that the proposals set forth in R. Reagan's letter contained nothing new whatsoever, being a repetition of the "zero option".

In his opinion, Bush did not really have to come all the way to Western Europe only to read it out there. Many other political figures of Western Europe make pronouncements in the same spirit. Stressing that Reagan's proposal for a pseudo-zero option was unrealistic, the leader of the Labor Party of Great Britain Michael Foot described the letter to the people of Europe as propaganda of the lowest grade designed to fool millions of people living in Western Europe.

It is clear that the people of Europe saw something very different in what Washington propaganda experts had in mind in conjunction with Bush's tour.

Attempt To Influence FRG Elections

LD031654 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 3 Feb 83

["A Trick That Failed To Work" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- TASS news analyst Yuriy Borisov writes:

The greater the momentum of the election campaign in West Germany in conjunction with the elections to the Bundestag scheduled for March 6 the greater the attention to the issue of U.S. plans for the deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe, specifically in West Germany. The population of West Germany is seriously concerned over the threat of the country becoming a launching-pad for U.S. nuclear missiles, and the leaders of the political parties cannot ignore that.

At the same time Washington is by no means indifferent to the outcome of the upcoming elections in West Germany. That is why the U.S. Administration is trying to influence the sentiments of West German citizens in line with its own interests. It is from this point of view that one should regard the recent visit of U.S. Vice-President George Bush to Bonn. It is not accidental that the visit to the West German capital was chosen as a starting point of his West European tour. In this connection even a number of West German papers admit that Washington is trying to play up to Helmut Kohl's party, not stopping short at actual interference in the election campaign in West Germany.

But this is only one aspect of the matter. Another major aim of Bush's tour was to influence the public opinion in Western Europe strongly impressed by the recent Soviet peace initiatives. A correspondent for THE NEW YORK TIMES stresses that the U.S. Administration made an attempt to counterpose at least something to the recent series of Soviet disarmament proposals. Washington therefore is in every way trying to pass itself off as a peacemaker and nearly as an opponent of the deployment of its nuclear missiles in Western Europe. At the same time the United States blames the Soviet Union for the deadlock at the Soviet-U.S. talks on medium-range missiles in Geneva.

However, one can say already now that this complex propaganda ploy of the White House has come to nothing. What George Bush brought along with him to West Germany as an open letter of the U.S. President to the people of Europe in no way testifies that Washington is really striving for an agreement that would answer the interests of both sides.

For President Reagan is clinging to the same old "zero option" which is totally unacceptable to the Soviet Union, as it demands its unilateral disarmament and gives the United States a definitive military edge. According to Britain's GUARDIAN President Reagan's letter has disturbed West Europeans rather than reassured them, for they began to question the sincerity of the U.S. Administration's statements concerning its intention to sign an agreement with the Soviet Union on medium-range missiles. In actual fact it is Washington's unconstructive position, to quote the answers of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov to the questions asked by a PRAVDA correspondent, which hinders progress at the Geneva talks.

Moreover, President Reagan clearly did a bad turn to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on the eve of the elections. The point is that latterly Mr Kohl was trying to present things in such a way that at the Geneva talks the United States was determined to seek any possibitlity to arrive at concrete and balanced results. [sentence as received] Reagan's letter, THE GUARDIAN admits, has undermined the popularity of the ruling coalition and Kohl himself in West Germany. The U.S. President clearly failed in the role of a "savior" of West Germans from U.S. nuclear missiles.

Washington is unwilling to seek mutually acceptable accords with the Soviet Union at the Geneva talks and thus dooms the talks to failure. Reagan's propaganda letter to the people of Europe is mere camouflage called upon to provide a smokescreen for the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe. The U.S. President, THE TIMES of London comments, was trying to achieve a propaganda aim rather than seriously intended to promote a success at the disarmament talks.

MOSCOW TV REPORTS BUSH'S ARRIVAL IN BELGIUM

LD032123 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today", program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Today, Vice President Bush, who has arrived in Belgium after visiting FRG and Netherlands, visited the headquarters of NATO. Not without irony, observers note that at last during this visit Bush can take a breather. Here, in the headquarters of the military bloc, he does not have to pass black off as white, here they understand him completely almost before he has spoken, as they say. [Camera shows Bush being welcomed by Luns, signing the visitors book and meeting officials.]

TASS REPORTS BUSH'S ARRIVAL IN GENEVA 4 FEB

LD041059 Moscow TASS in English 0917 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 4 TASS -- U.S. Vice-President George Bush, who is touring Western Europe, arrived here today. He is to address today's meeting of the Committee on Disarmament.

REACTION TO REAGAN'S 'OPEN LETTER' HIGHLIGHTED

'Changing the Packaging'

LD031634 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1509 GMT 3 Feb 83

["Packaging" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Feb (TASS) -- "The worse the goods are, the more lurid, as a rule, is the packaging prepared for them, otherwise they won't sell. When it comes to duping the consumer and the ability to call black white, the Americans have no equal. This is especially so in politics," writes Valentin Falin, IZVESTIYA's political observer, today. He cites as a fresh example President Reagan's open letter to the peoples of Europe.

In recent weeks, the observer writes, dissatisfaction with the U.S. leadership's obstinate lack of desire to come to terms with the people's will for peace has started to sound more and more energetically and loudly in Europe. Representatives of a number of allied governments have started to talk about the need for a "compromise" at the talks with the USSR on medium-range nuclear arms limitation and about a wish to apply "more flexibility" to the American position. Pressure has reached a crisis point and it has been necessary to urgently let the steam out of the boiler.

Here we have the United States bringing up the same old "zero option" changing the packaging, repeating the same old nonsense about a "Soviet nuclear threat," promising to "defend Europe at all costs" (to the last European) and after all that, proposing that both sides sign an agreement "removing American and Soviet medium-range land-based nuclear weapons from the face of the earth." Then we have quite an expansive, theatrical gesture -- the choice of place and time for the meeting to meet the demands put forward by the U.S. is left to the discretion of the Soviet side. Evidently the President is suggesting that the pleasure of his company is more than compensation for the threefold superiority in the number of nuclear warheads which NATO would acquire if the agreement it is proposing comes into effect and that this [pleasurable company] would make the qualitative disruption of parity in Europe in favor of the United States and its allies almost agreeable to the USSR and the other socialist countries.

The attitude of the Soviet leadership to the ideas expressed by Ronald Reagan is set out in the replies of Yuriy Andropov to questions put by a PRAVDA correspondent. The open letter is seen as confirmation of the U.S. reluctance to seek a mutually acceptable accord with the Soviet Union.

The open letter is not a constructive step to meet the Soviet Union halfway. It is an anti-Soviet ploy typical of the present administration.

The letter was dictated by calculations to hearten the "Atlanticists" who are ready to go through fire and water to suit their senior American partner, whatever that might cost Europe itself.

However, the observer points out in conclusion, people do not want to be pawns in a [word indistinct] which is being played out by anticommunists of various hues acting under the slogan, it's either our way or to hell with it. The peoples expect their voice to be heard and their interests finally to be considered.

Lacking a 'Serious Approach'

LD032023 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Commentary by Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Text] In his open letter to the peoples of Europe the U.S. President expressed an unexpected readiness to meet with Comrade Andropov anywhere, and that is what he wrote: anywhere. However, after becoming familiarized with the text of the letter, one is convinced that Reagan has already chosen the place of the meeting: it is canossa. This well-known historical expression means capitulation -- when the other side sets all the conditions.

Reagan really is ready to have a meeting, but only in order to sign an agreement on the notorious zero option. Since it is known in advance that the U.S. so-called zero option is unacceptable to the Soviet Union, and that the Soviet side will not go to Canossa, all this creative epistle-writing by the President looks to be a propaganda exercise in the spirit of the so-called public diplomacy which was recently announced in Washington.

The thing is that the idea itself of a summit meeting is quite popular. Every U.S. President beginning with Franklin Roosevelt has held one or several meetings with the Soviet leaders. But is Ronald Reagan ready for this? James Reston, a well-informed journalist on THE NEW YORK TIMES, testifies that the President is not ready for a meeting, since he has no idea what subjects to discuss. Reston writes that the President has not even defined his own policy and has not arrived at a common denominator with his advisers on what to say.

As far as the reaction from Moscow is concerned, there was no need to wait for it. Comrade Andropov confirmed the Soviet opinion that summit meetings are of particular importance for solving complex problems. The Soviet Union spoke out in favor of holding such a meeting with the present administration as far back as February 1981, soon after the administration had come to power; and it once again confirmed its readiness quite recently.

However, meetings must be approached seriously. They must not be made a political or propaganda game. It is to be regretted that the conditions put forward by Reagan far from testify to a serious approach by the U.S. leadership to the important idea of a summit meeting.

Journalists Display 'Critical Attitude'

LD031852 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The critical attitude of the American public was displayed at a press conference held by a White House spokesman who was trying to defend Reagan's address to the peoples of Europe. When one of the journalists asked him if he considered the American President's proposal for a meeting with Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, to sign an agreement of a nature long rejected by the Soviet side, was really a serious one, the spokesman became confused and was silent for a long time. This made the journalists laugh.

'INSOLVENCY' OF REAGAN ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYZED

LD040049 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1944 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Today President Reagan presented to Congress the annual report on the economic position of the country. The gist of the report is an acknowledgement, which the head of the U.S. Government forced himself to make, that the United States is going through a protracted economic slump.

The gross national product last year fell by nearly 2 percent and industrial output dropped by more than 8 percent. This is the third message from the President in the past few days to the U.S. Congress. In the past few days Reagan published his message on the state of the union and the budget message.

We have already told you, comrade viewers, that in the overall, political message Reagan effectively declared the continuation of the course of his administration. The impression was produced that the White House is unable to draw any conclusions from the evident failures both of domestic and foreign policy of the Republican administration. True, the most meticulous commentators have uncovered certain changes in the tone of the President's statements and in particular in foreign policy questions.

Paying tribute to the terminology of the cold war, the President nevertheless declined the usual Washington stereotypes, including those on the complex of Soviet constructive proposals. While previously Soviet proposals were followed by an immediate no, even before they had time to study them in the White House, this time the head of the U.S. Government used more evasive wording, saying that it would be necessary to think about it; allies should be consulted. But the practical steps by Washington following the nebulous considerations confirm one's assumption that there is no question of any political reappraisals. It is only a question of some cosmetic procedures for the purpose of misleading both the world and U.S. public opinion. Well, one practical proof of Washington's lack of desire to make any corrections in its course and react positively to the initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries is the draft budget for the next fiscal year proposed by President Reagan. This budget, in contrast to the general political statements, is quite concrete. Its figures are considerably more weighty than the streamlined phrases of the general political declaration.

In their document, the Warsaw Pact countries called on the United States and its allies to reach practical agreement on not increasing military spending and on its consequent reduction in percentage or absolute terms. What was Washington's reply to this constructive and entirely concrete proposal? It increased military allocations $30 billion with a simultaneous cut in social programs. For the build-up of strategic weapons alone the President proposes to allocate $28 billion, which is over $7.5 billion more than was spent this year. Such -- if one is to speak not of the rhetoric exercises of the Washington leaders but of their real deeds -- is the reply of the United States to the constructive initiatives of the Warsaw Pact countries.

In the January messages there is another section that cannot but attract one's attention. I refer to the fact that President Reagan effectively found himself forced to admit the insolvency of his whole economic program, which, without false modesty, the master of the White House 2 years ago dubbed Reaganomics. The complex of economic measures, which was the favorite brainchild of the President, the pivot of his whole political program was, as was planned by the leaders of the Republican Party, to haul the U.S. economy from the crisis-ridden morass in which it had been floundering for some years. Fairly soon after the government had started to implement its economic program, signs began to appear that it was not only failing to relieve but was, on the contrary, aggravating the already grave position of the U.S. economy. But in the White House they declined to admit the insolvency of their program, affirming that if not in the first year of the Presidency, then in the second it would doubtless yield its results. The economic policy of the Reagan government has indeed yielded results. Moreover they are record results. But they are not the sort of records which might gladden the authors of the policy. They include a record national debt, exceeding $1 trillion; a record budget deficit; the highest unemployment level since the Depression, exceeding 14 million; a considerable fall in production of main American industries.

Well, it was as impossible to go on promising Americans that prosperity lay around the corner, as it was to ignore the economic realities, and so Reagan found himself forced to admit, although not directly, in his messages to Congress the insolvency of the government economic program.

It is indicative that one of the most ardent supporters of the President among American journalists, the extreme rightwing political observer William Safire, commenting on the presidential messages, published an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES entitled, "Reagan Puts Out White Flag." Declaring that the President's messages to Congress were an empty mish-mash, the observer writes: It is becoming clear that the Reagan economic revolution -- that is how the bourgeois journalist describes the Reagan program -- has gone to ruin. Never before has a U.S. President suffered such a full painful fiasco. Much must have happened for a rightwing observer to write and a leading press organ of the American bourgeoisie to publish such an appraisal. This fact itself shows that the dissatisfaction with the insubstantial and dilettantist measures of the U.S. Administration has embraced not only wide masses of Americans but also provokes panic among influential circles of big business, who were pinning great hopes on the Presidency of Reagan.

U.S. BUSINESSMEN LOSING 'TRUST' IN REAGAN

LD311226 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] New York January 31 TASS -- The Gallup institute has asked the leading managers of major American corporations if they trust President Reagan's ability to take the right decisions in the economic field. Some 70 per cent of the polled said that they had very little trust in the President's ability to do that or that they did not have any definite opinion about it. This finding strikingly contrasts with the results of a survey conducted by the Gallup institute in December 1981 when 58 per cent of the "captains" of American business trusted Ronald Reagan unreservedly.

Commenting on the poll, Jay Schmeideskamp, director of economic surveys for the Gallup organisation, told THE NEW YORK TIMES that businessmen believed that responsibility for the utter disarray in the national economy rested with the President. After two years firmly in the President's support, the paper said, the managers of corporations and bankers were beginning to criticise his policy more and more openly, demanding substantial changes in it.

According to the newspaper, the leading members of the business community were especially concerned at the growing federal budget deficit which this fiscal year will exceed 200 billion dollars. The only way this deficit can be narrowed is to slash military spending considerably. The President of the national association of industrialists, Mr Trawbridge, said his association was concerned that in his State of the Union address the President had proposed increasing military expenditure by an annual nine per cent in the next five years. He said the association believed that the military spending proposed by the administration should be cut. If that was not done, the federal budget deficit would continue to remain at an unacceptably high level in the next few years.

IMPLICATIONS OF LAXALT APPOINTMENT ASSESSED

LD032117 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] One of the greatest internal political sensations in Washington is the appointment of Senator Paul Laxalt to the post of general chairman of the National Committee of the Republican Party. Up to now the Republican Party did not have any such post, and it has been created specially for this senator from the state of Nevada. But why should the creation of this post and the appointment of Laxalt to it have attracted such attention? And not just in Washington. After all, it would seem that this is a matter of no great significance. However, taking a closer look, it turns out that it is indeed well worth special comment. The point is that one of the important internal political questions in the United States just now is: Will President Reagan run for a second term or not?

However, the major failures in both domestic and foreign policy of the Reagan administration have put in doubt the possibility of the present President being reelected. Signs have also been detected of disarray within the ruling party. For instance, a real sensation was caused by the statement by Senator Howard Baker, leader of the Republicans in the Senate and a very influential man, that in 1984 he does not intend to run for the Senate again. This statement was taken as an almost open challenge on the part of this influential senator to the present head of the party, Reagan, and as a sign that Baker is ready to propose himself as a candidate of the Republican Party in the 1984 elections.

Well, Reagan, in spite of all the attempts of both politicians and journalists to find out his plans for the future, is so far maintaining complete silence on this subject. For this very reason, the appointment of Senator Laxalt to the post of chief of the Republican Party apparatus has caused a flood of commentaries. The point is that Laxalt is not just one of 100 American senators, but the closest personal friend of President Reagan. They are bound to each other by close relations which are far from being limited to the sphere of politics, relations which began long before Reagan reached the White House. The personal closeness of Reagan and Laxalt is a well-known fact. So, from this, political observers are drawing the conclusion that Reagan does after all intend to run for President again in 1984. If this were not so, they say, under no circumstances would Laxalt be able to lead the Republican Party apparatus; Reagan would not make such efforts as this to create a new post at the top of the party and entrust it to this closest personal friend.

Well, I think it is premature, all the same, to make judgements about Reagan having taken a decision to seek the presidency again. There are still 2 years to go before the elections, and in that time a lot could happen. But at the same time, one cannot dismiss the comment in the American press in connection with Laxalt's appointment.

Furthermore, this signal given by the White House, and apparently having the aim of ending the disarray which was beginning to occur in the upper levels of the ruling party, did not have the effect intended. The failures of the present administration, particularly in the field of the economy, are so great that unconcealed pessimism is growing in the Republican camp. If a radical turn for the better does not take place in the economy, declared one of the party leaders, William Taylor, in my opinion it won't really matter that much who our party's candidate is in the election. Whoever it is, he will be defeated.

Maybe all this would not deserve to be discussed in such detail were it not for the fact that it reflects the confusion which reigns in the ruling Republican Party, confusion which is a reflection of its failures, its lack of success, both within the country and in the international field.

U.S. 'INVENTS FACTS' ON POPE MURDER ATTEMPT

LD021258 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 2 Feb 83

["When Short of Words..." -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS -- By TASS commentator Vladimir Malyshev.

The sounds of "bravo" and stormy applause are heard from Washington. America has a new hero, according to the local press. This is a clever, methodical and tireless person, assures THE WASHINGTON POST. He is a modestly dressed, straightford guy, who succeeds by hard work and diligence, rather than by dint of his wits. In brief, he is a model guy, blameless, smart and hundred percent honest.

Who is this man of the day? What is this extraordinary personality? Is he a new film star? Or a boxing champion? Nothing of the kind. He is not even an American, but ...an Italian court officer, named Ilario Martella. The same Martella who has for twenty months been investigating the circumstances surrounding an assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II.

Signor Martella entered the limelight across the ocean after he ordered an arrest of Sergey Antonov, an employee of the Rome office of the Bulgarian Balkan Airways, on suspicion of "complicity" in the assassination attempt. The arrest was used by the Western propaganda machine as a pretext for launching an unprecedented slanderous campaign against Bulgaria, and other socialist countries which are accused of complicity in international terrorism. Well, the noisy campaign started long before that, shortly after the accession to power of the Reagan administration which groundlessly charged the USSR with "backing international terrorism."

It is known that the attempt on the life of the pope was carried out by Ali Mehmet Agca, a dyed-in-the-wool Turkish neo-fascist. Even a person with extremely vivid imagination will find it difficult to portray him as "Sofia's stooge". But are facts an obstacle for overseas master-slanderers? When Washington has no facts, it invents them, or it juggles with them. This is how the "Antonov Case" was fabricated. But the dirty provocation has ended in disgrace. The false charges were resolutely refuted by witnesses for the defense who provided weighty evidence.

Anticipating that the sensation is about to burst as a soap-bubble, they in Washington have come forward with the last trump-card: They are making an attempt to put pressure on judges who still doubt the "Bulgarian connection" in the assassination attempt on the pope. With this aim in view, they now praise in all ways the "exceptionally honest" and "hard-working" Martella. If this "incurruptible" judge keeps Antonov in jail, there must be somethng behind all this, overseas propagandists hint. They interpret even his unwillingness to talk to newsmen about the course of the investigation in the way which suits them: If Martella keeps silent, he surely knows something, THE WASHINGTON POST produces with a wise air.

Alas, it is common knowledge that silence may be due to a totally different reason: When there is nothing to say, for there is no, nor can be, any proof of Bulgaria's or the Soviet Union's (?participation in) international terrorism for the simple reason that it does not exist in nature. Opposition to international terrorism has always been a matter of principle for the USSR and all socialist countries.

It was the Central Intelligence Agency which suddenly confirmed the total absence of any evidence proving the "Bulgarian connection". The newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES reports that agents of American special services have failed to find any undeniable evidence supporting the version of Bulgaria's complicity in the assassination attempt on the pope. Well, the "CIA experts", quoted by the newspaper, immediatley made a reservation: Even if Bulgarians did not mastermind the assassination attempt, but [as received] they knew about its preparation, since the reports that Agca threatened in public to murder the pope had been published on front pages long before his attempt.

The logic is more than strange. One might think that Turkish newspapers are read only in Sofia, whereas in Rome and Washington they are not available. One might think that it is not the Italian police but "Bulgarian special services" which must fulfil protective functions on Italian territory.

In short, the engineers of the anti-Bulgarian campaign are in a blind alley. And what can they do? There are no facts and there is nothing to say, one has to lie and dodge. But the lie is always conspicuous.

U.S. SPACE MILITARIZATION PROGRAM 'IN FULL SWING'

LD022213 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 2 Feb 83

["The Pentagon Training Its Sights on Cosmos" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS -- Of the 70 space flights planned by the USA up to the year 1987, 25 are to be fully devoted to executing the Pentagon's secret assignments, O. Mikhaylov writes in the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] magazine.

He pointed out at the same time that the Soviet Union, which 25 years ago ushered in the era of peaceful uses of outer space, has remained true to its position.

In an article "The Pentagon Training Its Sights on Cosmos" Mikhaylov dwells in detail on the various aspects of the Reagan administration's policy of militarising space. The programme, the most comprehensive one in the past thirty years, unveiled in July 1982 as a presidential directive, spells out the chief military uses of outer space. According to Senator William Proxmire, the U.S. Administration began with "militarising NASA," which translated itself both into a change of the leadership of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and into cuts in budget's appropriations for research, in favour of the military programmes.

The putting of the "shuttle" spaceship programmes on the military track is in full swing; and the development of weapons using concentrated energy -- the laser and beam weapons, proceeds at an accelerated pace. The latter are supposed to hit targets by a beam of charged or neutral particles. Closest to completion is the programme for the development of anti-satellites -- the means for interception and destruction of space objects in orbit, the author continues. There is also under way the process of improving the organisational structure of the bodies charged with overseeing military activity in space. On September 1, 1982, a new space command was set up on Colorado Springs (the state of Colorado), within the framework of the U.S. Air Force. Set up in the U.S. Department of Defence and the Air Force were space operations committees, a centre for space technology and a group for interdepartmental coordination on the problems of space policy.

The principal task of the "national space policy" promulgated by Ronald Reagan is to assure a U.S. military leadership in space, Mikhaylov says. Deputy Under-Secretary of Defense for Policy R. Stivers said frankly that those with a possibility to control space could threaten the whole of the globe.

The arms race in outer space, the article says, significantly increases the level of military confrontation and distrust in the relations between states, making the prospect of possible disarmament agreements more remote.

At the recent meeting of the Political Consultative Committee the Warsaw Treaty member states renewed their call for embarking without delay on negotiations to ban emplacement of weapons of any kind in outer space. The problem of keeping space out of the frantic arms race is an extremely urgent one, the author concludes.

U.S. TRYING TO DOMINATE INDIAN OCEAN STATES

LD022202 Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS -- The idea of vital importance for the cause of peace, namely that of making the Indian Ocean a "zone of peace" is meeting with an obstructionist position of the USA. This is written today [3 February] by Vladimir Silantyev, IZVESTIYA's international news analyst. The result is that the decision of the U.N. General Assembly to hold an international conference on the Indian Ocean remains unfulfilled. Washington torpedoed its preparation, and unilaterally interrupted talks with the Soviet Union on the Indian Ocean. The unenviable tactics of U.S. representatives in the U.N. special committee on the Indian Ocean, who sabotage implementation of the peace initiatives, exposes Washington's hypocrisy.

Still pivotal to the Pentagon's militarist preparations in the Indian Ocean are the plans for a frantic amassing of a powerful military fist, expanding the web of staging areas for expansion and deploying in them the Rapid Deployment Force -- those elite subversionist-interventionist troops armed to the teeth. The latest step in this direction was made recently when the announcement came to the establishment of an American "Central Command" (Centcom) for a vast region, covering almost twenty countries of Africa and Asia, the article says.

What is now in progress is an attempt to impose domination on a vast region of the Indian Ocean on whose coasts there are 36 states whose population is a quarter of mankind.

U.S. Secretary of the Navy J. Lehman, expressing the U.S. imperial claims to an undivided dominance at sea, keeps saying that the United States must assure its presence in all the oceans. "All the oceans" have become a matter of intense interest to Washington politicians especially in recent years when many developing countries began tapping oil and other natural wealth on the continental shelf, Vladimir Silantyev says. Thus, it so happens that the most cherished wishes of the U.S. reactionary circles "to rule over the waves" in the style of the now defunct British colonial empire have not only a military-strategic, but also a purely mercantile, aspect to them.

The idea of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace has penetrated the minds of hundreds of millions of people, the article says in conclusion. It is doubtless that this question will become the subject of a profound and concerned discussion at a conference of the heads of state and government of nonaligned nations, due in Delhi.

MONDALE REMARKS ON NUCLEAR ARMS RACE CITED

LD040442 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] San Francisco February 3 TASS -- "There is no long-term or short-term security in an arms race." This was stated here on Wednesday by prominent representative of the Democratic Party, former Vice President of the United States Walter Mondale. He criticised the militaristic course of the Republican administration and stressed the need of working for an agreement on control over nuclear armaments.

"In all of World War Two, about 40 million human beings were killed. But if nuclear bombs go off, many times that number will lose their lives in a split second." said Walter Mondale.

The representative of the U.S. Democratic Party stressed that the unwillingness of the Reagan administration to conclude an agreement with the USSR on questions of nuclear disarmament is being criticised even by U.S. NATO allies. Differences in the North Atlantic alliance have largely increased, as a result. Washington's build up of appropriations for military purposes has undermined the national economy.

U.S. SCIENTISTS' APPEAL FOR PEACE NOTED

LD030355 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] A spokesman for the American State Department has given an incoherent explanation of Washington's views on nuclear weapons use. He said that, on the one hand the United States was against first use, but on the other it was not goig to make appropriate commitment. Now our commentary is by Victor Olin and this is what he writes:

The State Department's explanation came at a time when widespread response has been aroused by an appeal from a large group of distinguished scientists, military experts and politicians for the Reagan administration to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons. The appeal was sponsored by the influential union of concerned scientists. The union has issued a pamphlet saying that United States and NATO strategy provides for unconditionally using nuclear arms in what is termed a limited war. The writers of the book emphatically reject this strategy and quote authoritative experts on both sides of the Atlantic as warning against any nuclear warfare since it would only lead to a global disaster.

They also refer to unbiased studies to deny the existence of any threat of aggression from what is alleged to be superior conventional forces of the Soviet Union and its allies and they state that there is a rough balance of strength in Europe.

The position of these American scientists, military experts and politicians testifies to the growing popularity of the idea of eliminating the use of armed force from international relations. The Warsaw Treaty countries voiced their support for this idea when they recently proposed signing a treaty with the NATO member-states on the mutual non-use of military force and on maintaining peaceful relations. Such a treaty would be based on a mutual undertaking not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other. The Soviet Union and its allies have supplemented their preparedness for such an agreement with positive moves, among them the Soviet Union's unilateral pledge not to use nuclear weapons first. The socialist nations have called for ridding Europe of all nuclear weapons, for reducing strategic arsenals and for agreeing on other problems.

But the approach of the Washington administration to international relations continues to rely on military force, first of all on nuclear weapons. This is confirmed in a secret document recently made public, "Fiscal 1984-1988 Defense Guidance." In it the use of armed force in any part of the world for aggressive purposes and the first use of nuclear arms are laid down as key elements of the American military doctrine. It must have been them that the State Department spokesman had in mind when he was giving his incoherent explanation of Washington's views in reply to the appeal of scientists, military experts and politicians concerned with the slide into a nuclear abyss.

CIA DIRECTOR HAS 'PASSION' FOR COVERT ACTIVITIES

PM031055 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 January 1983 Second Edition carries on page 5 a 1,000-word dispatch entitled "Boom in U.S. Spy Department" from correspondent N. Kurdyumov. It cites a NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE article by (Philip Taubman) alleging a major increase in CIA activities since W. Casey's appointment as director two years ago. The dispatch accuses the present administration of lifting the restrictions on the CIA activities imposed by the Ford and Carter administrations, and describes Casey as havinga "passion" for covert foreign operations, citing El Salvador, Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Iran as areas in which the CIA is engaged in subversion.

PRAVDA ON CANADIAN ANTINUCLEAR CAMPAIGN

LD310958 Moscow TASS in English 0808 GMT 31 Jan 83

["For Nuclear-Free Canada" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 31 TASS -- The idea of turning Canada into a nuclear weapons-free zone, extensively backed by the country's population, is in the first stages of its realisation. The executive committee of the Toronto municipality has approved a resolution banning the "production, testing, storage, transportation or use of nuclear weapons and its components within city bounds," Nikolay Bragin writes in PRAVDA today. The idea of going non-nuclear is backed, despite pressure from the United States and local advocates of "NATO solidarity," by deputies of Parliament from the New Democratic Party, large trade union associations in the provinces, leaders of the Protestant Church, prominent scientists and workers in culture, the Canadian Peace Congress, the Communist Party and other organizations.

Simultaneously, Canadians are mounting a powerful campaign of protest against the testing on Canadian soil of American cruise missiles scheduled for this year. Washington intends to deploy then that [as received] carriers of "nuclear death" in Western Europe.

14 parliamentary deputies, nearly half of the entire composition of the country's supreme legislative body, including many members of the ruling Liberal Party, believe the federal government should not allow the United States to test its cruise missiles in Canada, the commentary says.

More and more Canadians strongly favour the new peace initiatives in the field of disarmament, which are advanced by the USSR and other Warsaw Treaty member-states.

It would be natural to expect that the Canadian Government will heed much authoritative calls; facts, however, attest to the contrary. Ottawa, for example, is continuing its bargaining about conditions of allowing the testing of American cruise missiles on Canadian soil and shows readiness to follow in Washington's wake in this respect.

USSR, CANADA COOPERATE IN SATELLITE RESCUE SCHEME

LD271129 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Ottawa January 27 TASS -- A ceremony devoted to the commencement of a regular basis in Canada of the international space program "Cospas-Sarsat" designed to resuce the crews of planes and ships in distress was held in Trenton (Ontario). A Soviet Cosmos sputnik is the main element of conducting search under this program whose members are the USSR, Canada, the United States and France.

Commenting on the launching of this international programme the Montreal GAZETTE notes that in accordance with a developed search and rescue system the Soviet sputnik, when flying over Canadian territory, will need only a few minutes to determine the exact location of pilots or seamen in distress.

The local press notes in this connnection that it was alreay in September of last year, when the system was still being tested, the Soviet satellite helped save the lives of three Canadians by precisely determining the location of their crashed plane.

The rescue evoked feelings of deep gratitude among the Canadian public.

The Canadian press speaks highly of the oepration of all the systems on board the Soviet sputnik. It quotes specialists who note the high sensitivity of its equipment. Canada stands to gain much from this international cooperation, GAZETTE writes, because more than 130 million dollars are annually spent on the search and rescue of ships and aircraft in distress.

U.S. POLICY 'RUNNING COUNTER' TO CHINA INTERESTS

OW040201 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Station observer (Liu Yi) commentary]

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state is continuing his tour of Far East countries. He arrived in Beijing on Wednesday after winding up his talks in Tokyo. According to U.S. newspapers, as far as the United States is concerned, the most knotty issue in Shultz' talks in Beijing would be the Taiwan question. As everyone is aware, the United States does not want to stop military and political support for the Taipei regime at all but wants to continue the "two Chinas" policy under a new signboard.

Among a number of problems in PRC-U.S. relations that have yet to be resolved, there also are contradictions between the two sides in trade and economic issues. It is a known fact that Chinese newspapers recently also mentioned the unfair and discriminatory attitude taken by the United States toward PRC-U.S. trade. However, the Taiwan question and the question of trade policy, from the U.S. point of view, are all secondary.

What concerns the U.S. State Department most now in the Far East is to opoose the Soviet policy that seeks the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations and the establishment of an atmosphere of stability, good-neighborliness and cooperation in the Far East. For example, to serve this purpose, the Soviet Union proposed the formulation and putting into use measures to enhance mutual trust among the Far East countries in military affairs. But the U.S. policy is just the opposite. It tries to conceal its stepped-up military involvement in regions close to the Soviet Union, People's Korea and China by means of diplomatic maneuvering and propaganda. Can such a U.S. scheme help promote a peaceful and stable situation in the Far East? Of course it cannot. On the contrary, it can only aggravate tension. Furthermore, the U.S. diplomatic activities to accelerate the militarization of Japan, continue occupation of the People's Korea, oppose the peaceful reunification of the People's Korea, and Washington's line to maintain and develop a special relationship with Taiwan are all running counter to the interests of the Chinese people and those of the people of other countries in the Far East.

Most conspicuous is that U.S. Secretary Shultz' present visit may indicate the possibility of engaging Japanese and South Korean troops in combat in the Far East. On the heels of a massive U.S.-Japanese naval exercise in January, a large-scale army exercise of U.S. and South Korean forces began on 1 February. The KPA [Korean People's Army] Supreme Command in Pyongyang pointed out that this exercise was an overt military provocation conducted to undermine peace in Korea.

We would also like to look into another aspect of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' visit to the Far Eastern countries, that is, the U.S. plan to set up a new aggressive bloc under the signboard of the Japan-U.S.-Korea security system. This aggressive bloc is designed to serve the interests of its counterattack strategy and put constant military and political pressure on the Far East countries. I think many people in China have realized that imperialists can never be friends of the socialist poeple at any time.

THIRD ROUND OF SINO-INDIAN BORDER TALKS ENDS

LD030016 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] According to a REUTER report from Beijing, quoting the XINHUA agency, the third round of Sino-Indian border talks was completed there today. It was not possible to resolve them, but, as the dispatch says, progress was achieved in the parties' understanding of each other's positions. It looks as if this formula covers merely the desire of the parties to continue the talks. Let us recall that the first two rounds of talks were held in December 1981 and last May. They ended without results.

NAKASONE'S THREAT TO BLOCK STRAITS QUESTIONED

LD032242 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpts] In his recent speech in parliament the Japanese prime minister, Nakasone, called for increasing Japan's military potential and stressed that Japan does not intend to create any military threat for the neighboring countries. But do things stand so in reality? Our observer Yuriy Afonin considers this question in this commentary.

Among the belligerent statements made by the prime minister, Nakasone, during his recent visit to the United States we may recall that he stressed the need for Japan to block the straits washing its shores in case of emergencies. This was quite a serious statement, since it concerns the interests of peace and security in the Far East. The straits are not internal Japanese waters but international waterways free to navigation for all countries.

What emergency does Japan's plan of blocking international straits imply? It looks like it implies war, or (?its) threat. But then what war does Tokyo have in mind? Proceeding from Japan's official military doctrine, according to which the USSR is a potential enemy, there can be no doubt at against whom an action to block the straits can be directed, and Tokyo has been openly declaring that the purpose of blocking will be to prevent Soviet fleets from sailing out into the Pacific Ocean.

Japanese officials have been trying to make their military preparations look defensive, but this is hard to believe, for the USSR has said time and again that it does not intend to attack Japan.

It is quite clear that such blocking is needed not for Japan, but for the American military in their plans of war against the USSR. (?This) is the essence of real meaning of the so-called emergency circumstances under which the Japanese Government intends to block the straits. This runs directly counter to Japan's national interests and would in case of such emergencies (?make) Japan an instrument of Washington's anti-Soviet strategy.

COMMENTARY SEES GROWING JAPANESE BELLICOSITY

PM031609 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 83 Second Edition p 4

[PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov article: "Escalating Bellicosity"]

[Text] Bellicose remarks have been emanating from the Japanese capital with increasing frequency recently. The readiness to comply with American calls to step up Japan's military role and its contribution to global U.S. strategy and to rearm the country under the flag of Japan's "duty as an ally" is being expressed much more openly than before.

Y. Nakasone's government has adopted a course with regard to these questions which clearly runs counter to the peace provisions of the Japanese Constitution, a course which is again directing the country into a militarist path. These dangerous new trends have become particularly manifest in connection with the latest American-Japanese summit meeting. During preparations for his trip to Washington, in the course of talks with U.S. President R. Reagan and also during the subsequent visit by Secretary of State G. Shultz to Tokyo, the Japanese prime minister not only seriously alarmed the country's public with his remarks and actions, but also caused concern among Japan's neighbors.

What new aspects of American-Japanese relations and Tokyo's approach to military problems emerged during these contacts?

When preparing for his trip across the ocean Nakasone was apparently aware that American-Japanese contradictions had been considerably exacerbated both on trade issues and on military matters. Washington made no secret of its irritation at the fact that Tokyo is excessively active in trade expansion, yet its contribution to the West's military efforts is, in the opinion of American strategists, still hesitant.

On the eve of his visit Nakasone took some trouble over the "gifts" with which to humor American critics. The first was a 6.5 percent increase in Japan's military spending (although this year's state budget envisages virtually no growth in other spheres).

The second "gift" was Nakasone's surprise trip to Seoul. This visit -- the first official visit by a Japanese head of government to South Korea since the war -- is billed as a turning point in Japan's relations with its former colony. Washington is doing all it can to encourage rapprochement between Tokyo and Seoul; it makes it clear that if it is not convenient for the Japanese Government directly to increase its contribution to U.S. military efforts in South Korea, this could be done indirectly, by furnishing the Seoul regime with money. In Seoul the guest from Tokyo drew up an agreement on concessionary loans of $4 billion to Chon Tu-Hwan. As a result part of the expenditure on building up South Korea's military potential and maintaining American troops on its territory is shifted from the United States to Japan.

Finally, the third "gift", ostentatiously timed to coincide with the premier's trip across the ocean, was the Japanese Government's decision to grant the United States unrestricted access to innovations in Japanese technology that have military applications. Exports of combat hardware have hitherto been banned as contrary to the spirit of the Japanese Constitution. From now on, by virtue of "special relations" with the United States, an exception will be made for the Pentagon. The U.S. Defense Department has already asked the Japanese company Kawasaki Jukogyo to make available technology for the production of antitank missiles guided by laser beams.

The "gifts" with which Nakasone provided himself had their effect, by all appearances. "In view of the positive initiatives displayed by the Japanese prime minister recently," Reagan stated, "I have no doubt that the Japanese Government is now ready to assume a more significant share of efforts to maintain peace and stability." "We have reaffirmed that both Japan and the United States intend to share appropriately the responsibility which rests on our two countries," the Japanese guest echoed him in his reply speech.

It is apposite to recall that this very thought figured in the joint communique on the previous American-Japanese summit meeting in May 1981. That document declared to be desirable an "appropriate division of roles between Japan and the United States in ensuring stability in the Far East and in the defense of Japan." The document also enshrined the commitment for Tokyo to "make still greater efforts to increase Japan's defense capability both on its own territory and in the surrounding seas and air space." It was on this basis that there arose the question of the "Self-Defense Forces" taking on the patrolling of the northwestern Pacific for a distance of 1,000 miles from Japan's shores.

But the main thing is that in the 1981 communique Japanese-U.S. relations were for the first time officially described as an "alliance." Behind this one could glimpse the desire to equate the American-Japanese "security treaty" with the North Atlantic pact and Japan had the same military commitments as are borne by the West European NATO countries.

But this prospect aroused such stormy protests among the Japanese at that time that the government deemed it a good idea to state that there was no agreement on any increase in Japan's military commitments, and the blame for the allegedly poorly formulated and misinterpreted document was laid on the foreign minister, who was forced to resign.

This time Reagan and Nakasone preferred to do without a joing communique altogether. But the visitor from Tokyo confirmed for all to hear that he regards American-Japanese relations as an alliance and that Japan should, therefore, make as much effort as the West European countries in the military sphere.

Nakasone confirmed that the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" are prepared to take on a part of the combat tasks of the U.S. 7th fleet in the Pacific by patrolling the region "from Guan to Tokyo, from the Formosa Strait to Osaka." This clarification is by all appearances, aimed at the ASEAN members, who are concerned to know from where the Japanese air and naval forces intend to calculate their operational zone. If it is from Okinawa for instance, Southeast Asia would fall within a 1,000-mile radius. So the Japanese premier considered it necessary to create the impression that it will be calculated from the main Japanese island, Honshu.

At the talks which Nakasone held in Washington and which Shultz continued in Tokyo, the Japanese side tried to back up the activation of its military role in the Pacific with a kind of economic commitment, and at the same time to equalize to some degree the trade balance between the two countries.

In particular the question was raised of allowing Japan to acquire American oil extracted in Alaska (at present this can only be shipped to the American market). This would increase American exports to Japan and thereby reduce the foreign trade deficit -- painful to the United States -- which threatens to reach $22 billion in 1983. As for the Japanese public, in this event it would allegedly be easier to persuade them of the need to defend Pacific communications by military force....

In general the prevailing opinion in the American press is that in the sphere of trade and economic contradictions the latest American-Japanese summit meeting changed little. But in the field of military-political cooperation the guest from Tokyo surpassed expectations. He announced there that the "Self-Defense Forces" do not intend to confine their operations to the country's territory; that they are preparing to blockade the adjacent straits: Laperouse, Tsugaru, and Korea; that the Japanese islands must be turned into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier." This was very much to the taste of Pentagon strategist.

"It is in the military sphere that Nakasone's course departs most radically from his predecessors' policy. His remarks at official meetings in Washington and also his talk with representatives of THE WASHINGTON POST indicate that he takes a more openly nationalist line, expresses more clearly the idea of creating a mightier war machine, and pursues a more open anti-Soviet policy than his recent predecessors. When reports on his remarks in Washington appeared in the Japanese press, a political storm broke out" -- that is how THE WASHINGTON POST describes the recent visit.

The background against which U.S.-Japanese relations have begun to be elevated to the rank of an alliance is also probably worthy of note. This question came onto the agenda precisely at the time that the Pentagon started talking about deploying theater nuclear weapons not only in Western Europe, but in Eastern Asia too; when the installation of cruise missiles on warships and planes increased the significance of Japanese ports and airfields -- in a word, when the American military wanted to gain the same freedom of action on Japanese soil as it has, for instance, in the FRG or Britain, regardless of any stipulations like the "three non-nuclear principles" -- that is, the Japanese Government's commitment not to create, acquire, or import nuclear weapons.

Sinister signs of this new stage in allied relations are appearing increasingly frequently. For instance, it has been decided to deploy sophisticated American F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons at the Japanese air base at Misawa. The modernized battleship New Jersy, equipped with Tomohawk missiles, has been incorporated in the U.S. 7th Fleet, for which the Japanese port of Yokosuka serves as a base.

Tokyo ruling circles are not averse to giving the people the impression that Japan is allegedly forced to extend military-political cooperation with the United States and associate itself with the global anti-Soviet aggressive strategy of the United States and NATO for the sake of its own foreign trade interests. It would be a misapprehension to believe this. American pressure is indeed taking place. But in this case it is joined with the desires of those inside Japan who support the rearming of the country. This is reflected in the escalating bellicosity which characterizes the Nakasone cabinet. This bellicosity is evidence of a significant trend toward building up military potential and a dangerous stepping up of militarist trends in Japanese imperialism.

The peace-loving public in Japan are, with every reason, sounding the alarm about the present government's policy, which ignores the lessons of history and is contrary to the interests of the Japanese people and the cause of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

SHAKOV CRITICIZES U.S.-ROK MILITARY EXERCISES

OW040229 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Shakov commentary on U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise]

[Text] The U.S.-ROK joint military exercise being held throughout South Korea is a part of the comprehensive activities of the U.S. militarists in the Far East. They have held one military exercise after another, some in South Korea, others in Japan, U.S. military bases in the Pacific, or off the coasts of various Southeast Asian countries. A large number of members of the U.S. Marine Corps, Air Force, and Navy have been taking part in these military exercises. Washington is transferring more and more troops and military equipment to the Far East and (?expanding its nuclear guided missile force there) on the pretext of holding military exercises.

India's DELHI EXPRESS has pointed out: People have an impression that the United States seems to regard the Pacific Ocean as its inland sea where it can do what it wants.

Another thing is worth our attention. Whenever the United States steps up its military activities, many U.S. diplomats and generals, including Secretary of State Shultz, visit various Asian countries. People of (?many) Asian countries point out that U.S. military exercises and Washington's diplomatic activities are a part of the U.S. general strategy to initimidate the people on the Asian Continent. Your RENMIN RIBAO has impartially pointed out that these activities by Washington further complicate the situation and threaten the peace and security of the people of various countries. The DPRK's NODONG SINMUN also pointed out that the U.S.-South Korea military exercise fosters great danger because it is connected with their active efforts to form a U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance. NODONG SINMUN has cited many facts about the provocations openly evoked by the U.S. bellicose clique against the DPRK, including U.S. spy aircraft operations over the DPRK.

Social and political activists in many Asian countries have emphatically pointed out the urgency and significance of the proposal made by the Soviet Union on adoption of measures of trust in the Far East.

India's HINDUSTAN STANDARD wrote that all the Indian people appeal to all countries to treat seriously the Soviet Union's proposal designed to turn the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean into peace zones. Such a proposal is precisely what is opposed by the U.S. ruling clique which attempts to establish rule in the Far East. In order to grab gains, the U.S. ruling clique is using military blackmail and diplomatic pressure to intimidate the people of various countries. The abovementioned U.S.-South Korea military exercise, the largest in history, is proof. Washington's diplomatic activities also pursue this objective.

DPRK Denounces Exercises

LD032110 Moscow TASS in English 2004 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 TASS -- The Foreign Ministry of the Korean People's Democratic Republic has firmly denounced the American-South Korean Team Spirit-83 military exercises. These exercises, the biggest in the past few years, the statement stresses, are an undisguised military provocation against the Korean people, a criminal game with fire, which gravely imperils peace on the Korean peninsula, in Asia and the whole world.

NODONG SINMUN ON MEYER NUCLEAR WEAPONS REMARK

PM031621 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Attempt at Nuclear Blackmail"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 25 Jan -- The newspaper NODONG SINMUN, organ of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee, has resolutely condemned a statement by General E. Meyer, U.S. Army chief of staff, on the possible use of tactical nuclear weapons in Korea. The United States, the newspaper writes, is trying to intimidate the DPRK and to subject it to nuclear blackmail.

NODONG SINMUN points out the U.S. desire to involve Japan in a nuclear adventure. U.S. imperialism, the newspaper observes, makes no secret of its plans to form an aggressive tripartite alliance comprising Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul.

SRV STATEMENT ON NEW YEAR BORDER TRUCE CITED

PM031235 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "SRV Foreign Ministry Statement"]

[Text] Hanoi, 2 Feb -- The Vietnamese Government has decided unilaterally to take measures to ensure peace on the Vietnamese-Chinese border during the traditional lunar New Year celebrations. This is stated in an SRV Foreign Ministry statement disseminated here.

On 17 January, the statement points out, the Vietnamese side proposed to China that all hostilities on the border between the two countries cease in the period from 5 through 19 February 1983 so that the inhabitants of the border regions can celebrate the lunar New Year in tranquility. Unfortunately, the Chinese side did not accept Vietnam's constructive proposal -- which attests to its reluctance to ease tension on the border and its desire to continue its hostile policy toward the SRV.

Nevertheless, the Foreign Ministry statement emphasizes, the SRV Government, motivated by consistent goodwill, on 2 February issued an order to the Vietnamese Armed Forces along the entire length of the northern border unilaterally to cease hostilities during the New Year celebrations. The Vietnamese side hopes that China will follow its example.

The people of Vietnam, the SRV Foreign Ministry statement points out, are sure that their sincere and constructive proposal will meet with the approval and support of the Chinese people and public opinion in the region and throughout the world.

MOSCOW REPORTS ON LE DUAN SPEECH TO YOUTH

LD040634 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Ho Chi Minh -- The participants in the traditional meeting of friendship and solidarity of Soviet and Vietnamese youth were addressed by Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party. He called all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union a strategic, principled course for Vietnam. Comrade Le Duan called on the young people of the two countries to strengthen solidarity with young men and women of other states in the socialist community in the struggle to implement today's exalted aim -- achieving universal peace.

INDONESIAN MINISTER RECEIVES KAPITSA, SOLOVYEV

BK011715 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja received visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kapitsa in Jakarta today. The Soviet deputy foreign minister was accompanied by Southeast Asian affairs director (Botchov), Far East affairs director Solovyev and the secretary of the deputy foreign minister, (Latikov).

According to the Foreign Information Directorate, the Soviet deputy foreign minister and his party, who arrived in Jakarta today, will stay in Indonesia until Thursday. Besides meeting with Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, the Soviet deputy foreign minister will also hold talks with the director general of political affairs, Foreign Affairs Department, Munawir Syadzali. The Foreign Information Directorate did not disclose the topics of discussion.

REAGAN ASSURES ZIONIST LEADERS OF U.S. SUPPORT

LD032040 Moscow TASS in English 1941 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS — By TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev

President Reagan has assured leaders of American and international Zionist organisations that the United States in its Middle East policy will never give up its support for Israel. "America's commitment to Israel remains strong and enduring," he told a gathering of Zionist leaders at the White House on Wednesday. In confirmation of invariable faithfulness to the long-standing American-Israeli alliance -- the alliance between imperialism and Zionism — the head of the White House recalled that "since the foundation of the State of Israel, the United States has stood by her and helped her pursue security, peace and economic growth." Each and every Arab, however, knows too well from his or her own fate what the "pursuance of security and peace" for Israel means in the parlance of Israeli Zionists.

This means, first of all, suppression of Arabs seizure of lands, humilitation of national dignity, expulsion of the Arab people of Palestine from their native places. Those Arab countries which try to help and back in some way Palestinian refugees are subjected by Israeli aggressors, who enjoy full approval and support from Washington, to military attacks. There is no mercy either for children, old people or women. The tragedy of Lebanon is vivid evidence of that: West Beirut is in ruins, Lebanon's southern regions are under occupation, armed aggression is being prepared against Syria, part of whose territory — the Golan Heights -- has been captured by Tel Aviv. It is precisely on such "moral and strategic ties", as President Reagan put it, that American-Israeli friendship rests.

Reagan dispelled all suppositions about any possible "differences" between Washington and Tel Aviv in their common anti-Arab policy.

"Our friendship (with Israel)," the American President stressed, "continues, however, and there should be no doubt that America's commitment to Israel's security remains as it (?has always) been." His remarks make it clear that the United States intends to continue its support for Tel Aviv's crime against the Arab people.

Setting forth his administration's Middle East policy, Reagan reaffirmed its unchanged support for the separate anti-Arab Camp David deal and insisted that Arabs should unconditionally sit at the negotiating table with the Israeli aggressor who continues occupation of their land. The American Administration views such direct talks with Tel Aviv as a propitious opportunity for imposing American patronage on Arab countries [words indistinct] Israeli actions against Arabs, and splitting the Arab world into confronting and hostile groupings.

Reagan's speech before the Zionists has shown once again that the United States has always been and remains on the side of Israel, and against Arabs.

WASHINGTON STAGING 'COVER OPERATION' FOR ISRAEL

LD032156 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Our editorial teletype machines have continued to receive very alarming reports from the Near East today. These reports show that Israel is feverishly preparing for a new act of aggression.

This time Tel Aviv's main aim is Syria. The Israeli command is bringing up its forces toward the Syrian border. [Shots of Israeli armored vehicles] Every day there are provocations against the Syrian units which form part of the inter-Arab forces in Lebanon. The impression is created that this is not a matter of isolated incidents of provocation by the Israeli militarists, but of a wide-scale aggressive action now being planned and directed against a country that has consistently opposed the Israeli aggressor. Some correspondents report that operations by the aggressor against Syria could begin at any moment.

Washington these days has stepped up what might be called its cover operation for the Israeli aggressors. On the one hand, the U.S. mass media are whipping up a great fuss about Syria strengthening its antiaircraft defense with the aid of the installation of new surface-to-air missiles, trying to represent these purely defensive measures as representing a danger for the Israelis. And on the other hand, Washington is playing out a political comedy in poor taste. They are trying to make it appear that serious differences exist between the United States and Israel, and that this has virtually reached the point of a quarrel. The poor Washington officials, you see, are quite unable to control their obstreperous Tel Aviv partner, who is undermining peace in the Near East. This pitiful farce was apparently needed by Washington in order to be able, if Israel aggression against Syria does begin, to wash its hands of all responsibility. However, there is no doubt about the fact that in preparing a new war, the Tel Aviv hawks are acting not only with the full agreement, but with the active support of Washington.

BRUTENTS MEETS WITH LEADER OF AMAL MOVEMENT

LD031542 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Beirut February 3 TASS -- The delegation of the CPSU Central Committee led by Karen Brutents, deputy head of the International Department, who are staying in the Lebanese capital, have held talks with Nabih Birri, chairman of the guiding council of the "Amal" Movement. In the course of the meeting the sides discussed the situation, which has emerged in Lebanon as a result of the Israeli aggression, prospects for developments in the Arab region and in the country. N. Birri set forth the stand of the "Amal" Movement on the possible versions of a settlement of the Lebanese crisis, and stressed that each of them should be based on Resolutions 508 and 509 of the U.N. Security Council, providing for immediate and complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the whole territory of Lebanon occupied by them. The leader of the "Amal" Movement stressed the need for consolidating all international forces in order to bring pressure to bear on Israel and make Tel Aviv withdraw its troops from the Lebanese territory. The Soviet delegation reiterated the USSR's principled stand of support for Lebanon's national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity on the basis of an immediate end to the Israeli occupation and withdrawal of the Israeli interventionist force from that country.

SOVIET COLONEL WRITES ON SYRIAN ARMY LIFE

PM021025 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Colonel F. Kozanchuk "Travel Notes": "Meetings on Syrian Soil"]

[Text] Damascus-Moscow -- [no date given] -- A delegation of Soviet political workers has visited Syria within the framework of the regular ties between political organs of the Soviet Army and Navy and political guidance organs of the Syrian Armed Forces.

The travel notes published here describe some of the impressions gained by delegation members from the trip to the friendly country.

Our acquaintance with present-day Syrian reality began on board the Aeroflot airliner which took off from Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport for Damascus. Our neighbors in the passenger compartment turned out to be Palestinians who had undergone a course of treatment in our motherland's capital. Everyone in the aircraft viewed these men who had endured steadfastly and with dignity the grim ordeals of the 75-day blockade of West Beirut with respect. Now they were heading for Syria, where their friends and relatives, refugees for a second or third time, would be found.

Once in Syria we saw their places of refuge in the suburbs of Damascus and other cities: tented camps inhabited primarily by women, young children and old men. The Syrian people have given and continue to give what assistance they can to the fraternal Palestinian people. Refuge has been given to those whom the Israeli aggressors have driven out of their age-old lands and now from Lebanon too. There are a number of Palestinian establishments in Syria. Sessions of PLO leading organs are held in Damascus, as in the capitals of certain other Arab countries.

...Although the Moscow winter this year has not been particularly frosty, the Damascus winter greeted us with real summer dryness and warmth. On the other hand, the Golan Heights were capped with snow. And in the Lebanese mountains, Syrian officers told us, the snow was unusually early and deep. In some places there were snowdrifts meters thick. This was yet another test of the strength and staunchness of the Syrian servicemen in the subunits belonging to the inter-Arab forces; particularly for those in the mountains bordering the Al-Biqa' Valley, who must wear warm trousers, coats and underwear, which are not customary for Syrians. Under normal conditions Syrian servicemen traditionally manage without overcoats in the winter.

The theme of Lebanon and the struggle against the Israeli aggressors permeated all the meetings and talks that we had in Syria. That was understandable. For nearly 10 years -- since October 1973 -- Syria's servicemen have been in their positions in the Golan region. They have been fulfilling an important and difficult mission in Lebanon under an Arab League mandate since 1976. Syrian troops were brought into that country at the request of its legitimate government to prevent Lebanon from being divided, to preserve its territorial unity and to promote the attainment of a national consensus. When in June last year Israel, encouraged by its overseas protectors, launched an aggression against Lebanon, Syrian forces worthily resisted the interventionists. It is now clear to all that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon did not achieve its aims thanks to the heroism of the Palestinian resistance movement, the Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Syrian servicemen belonging to the inter-Arab forces. All of this demanded and continues to demand endurance from the Syrian people and their Army and considerable effort and sacrifice in the name of defending a just cause.

Toward the end of the first day of our stay in Damascus we visited a military cemetery and laid wreaths at the base of a magnificent monument erected there in honor of those who gave their lives fighting with weapon in hand against the Israeli aggressors. The majority of those resting there died during the 1973 war. We were also shown fresh graves containing those who repulsed the Israeli aggression in Lebanon in 1982.

The entire country reveres the memory of its fallen servicemen. Their names are bestowed on schools and streets, and young people are educated on their exploits. The children of dead servicemen are cared for. In Damascus we visited a boarding school -- a unique educational institution for Near East countries -- where the children of dead servicemen are educated. It is an entire complex of modern buildings equipped with everything necessary for the life, study and leisure of thousands of children -- from those still in kindergarten to 12th grade students.

Three shifts of teachers and educators, including career officers, care and their study and leisure. Considerable attention is paid to students' military-patriotic education. The fruits of this work are there to be seen. The school's leaders described how many of their graduates enter military college and become career officers.

During the trip the delegation was given the opportunity to acquaint itself with the work of the Syrian Armed Forces' political commanders, staffs and organs in educating personnel. Various aspects of this problem were stressed in a conversation that was held between delegation members and Major General M. Talas, Syrian defense minister.

It was indicative that our interlocutors -- commanders, staff workers and officers of political guidance organs -- invariably stressed the paramount significance of educational work with servicemen of all categories and the need for all officers to participate in it. We saw for ourselves that a definite system of such work has taken shape and is functioning within the Syrian Armed Forces. It is conducted by a Political Directorate comprising several sections. Braches of the Armed Forces, categories of troops, divisions and military academic institutions have political guidance sections, and units have political guidance departments. Political studies and briefing are regularly held with servicemen. Military museums and combat-glory rooms have been set up and monuments in honor of fallen servicemen have been erected within divisions and units.

We visited the N tank regiment museum. All the museum's displays were prepared by servicemen. There were many colorful display panels, drawings and diagrams depicting the unit's combat path and its servicemen's feats. In front of the museum there is a memorial complex, at its center is a tank on a pedestal. We were told that young servicemen take the oath there and that flowers are laid at the foot of the monument on holidays. Our delegation also laid a wreath.

Military journals published by the Political Directorate, the weekly PEOPLE'S ARMY, the biweekly ARAB SERVICEMAN, and the monthly MILITARY JOURNAL [journal titles translated into Russian by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA], offer great assistance in educating servicemen. All publications regularly feature translations of materials from the Soviet military press. The continuous Damascus radio and television broadcasts describing the life of the Syrian Armed Forces are popular not only with servicemen but also with the broad strata of Syria's population. The military movie studio, using its still modest potential produces documentaries and reacts promptly to events occurring within the Army.

One topical issue in educating personnel, Syrian friends told us, is that of combating the subversive centers that are waging genuine "psychological warfare" against Syria and its Armed Forces. Thus during the aggression in Lebanon, Tel Aviv and its overseas protectors tried to create doubts about the reliability and efficacy of the weapons and combat hardware with which the Syrian Army was equipped while praising the weapons in Israel's hands.

"This is a groundless lie," President H. al-Asad said at the 20th Syrian trade union congress. "A lie which did not stand the test in recent battles. It will not stand it in future fighting." The president quoted this example: "Much was said about the Israeli Merkava tank, that it was the best in the world.... However, the fighting showed that the best tank was the T-72. And I can say that the Soviet T-72 is the best tank in the world. Wherever Israeli tanks were opposed by this tank the former failed the test." The Syrian press has published quite a few other examples and arguments refuting Israeli fabrications.

The efforts of political guidance commanders and officers are focused on analyzing and interpreting the experiences of past combat actions and on making the appropraite adjustments to the practice of training and educating personnel.

Syrian friends did not hide the difficulties either, including those in the sphere of educating servicemen. There is a shortage of career political guidance officers. The Damascus military-political college has only recently begun training such cadres. Despite the perceptible increase in literacy in the country, the Army still receives people who have not gone to school. These young servicemen must be taught to read and write before they begin to master weapons and hardware. To this end the Political Directorate, in conjunction with the republic's Ministry of Education, has developed special textbooks, has formulated methods and has special teaching cadres.

A considerable proportion of Syrian Army personnel are continuously in the field and on combat duty. This makes it necessary to seek appropriate forms and methods of daily political educational work. The Syrian friends stressed that they are greatly interested in the wealth of experience of such work in the Soviet Armed Forces and the other socialist countries' armies. We saw for ourselves that this interest was businesslike and sincere. In turn, delegation members familiarized themselves with certain aspects of the work of Syrian political guidance commanders and officers.

In addition to the business part of the program, the delegation had the opportunity to familiarize itself with the way Syrian people live and the sights of the country. In particular, we visited Busra, where we saw the remarkable open-air theater -- a monument of Roman and Syrian culture. We were struck by the skill of the ancient architects and builders who built in stone a magnificent edifice which even now is used for its original purpose. Artists from Belorussia recently performed the ballet Spartacus there with great success.

The art of the ancient builders is preserved and multiplied by Syria's present generation of architects. The best evidence of this is provided by the rapid construction in Damascus, which is transforming the appearance of its many districts. At the same time new construction projects are also characteristic of the rural landscape. Road building is also being carried out on a broad scale as nature has endowed Syria with generous stocks of natural asphalt, stone and sand.

Important industrial projects are being built in the country. At many of them Soviets are working side by side with Syrians. The fruits of Soviet-Syrian cooperation are clearly visible in all parts of the republic. There are the many kilometers-long power lines from the Euphrates hydroelectric power station, which meets 70 percent of Syria's demand for electricity. There are oilfields in the north of the country, and the railroad and modern new enterprises built with the Soviet Union's assistance. Of the 64 Soviet-Syrian cooperation projects, 35 have already been commissioned.

The USSR's selfless assistance in the training of national cadres is another facet of Soviet-Syrian cooperation. Lieutenant Muhammad an-Najjari worked as the delegation's interpreter. He graduated from the languges faculty of the Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he defended a candidate's thesis on the works of L. Tolstoy. Returning home he translated "Memories of Tolstoy" into Arabic. He translates Russian classics and contemporary Soviet writers. Under the law on general military service Muhammad is now serving in the Army. "Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy was also in the Army," the lieutenant jokes.

"Find your comrade before you set off, choose your neighbor before you build your home," the wise Arab proverb runs. States do not choose their neighbors. As for friends and allies, the Syrian people have chosen them themselves. Staunchly and courageously defending their country's freedom and independence and thwarting the aggressive plans of U.S. imperialism and the Zionist State of Israel, the Syrian people and their Armed Forces rely on their friends throughout the world and primiarly on the Soviet Union and other socialist states.

IMPLICATIONS OF KIRKPATRICK LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

LD031052 Moscow TASS in English 0844 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 3 TASS -- Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. permanent representative to the U.N. is starting today on a 10-day tour of a number of Latin American countries, which will take her to Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, and Venezuela. Announcing that, Larry Speakes, deputy White House press secretary, pointed out that Kirkpatrick's tour is a follow-up to President Reagan's visit to that region in December. According to the White House spokesman, in the course of her visit, Jeane Kirkpatrick intends to discuss questions pertaining to a "strengthening of democracy", as well as economic and military problems.

The very fact that Washington's high-ranking emissaries have recently frequented Latin America, is viewed by American observers as evidence of the fact that despite Reagan's recent visit, the United States has failed to eliminate tensions, which, according to the newspaper WASHINGTON POST, exist in relations between the USA and its southern neighbours.

As is pointed out here, Kirkpatrick's tour also bears out that the USA intends to step up its military-economic support for the bloody dictatorships in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

U.S. EL SALVADOR POLICY 'HYPOCRITICAL,' A 'FRAUD'

PM031441 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed rejoiner: "Augurs in Congress": from "The World Today" feature compiled by Yu. Romanov]

[Text] A farce is once again being played out in the American Congress -- the White House has sent congressmen a report on successes in the sphere of protecting human rights in El Salvador, and the congressmen must pretend that they believe the report and vote for tens of millions of dollars to be appropriated for military aid to the bloody Salvadoran regime. Every 6 months since 1981, the congressmen have been assuming the air of ancient Roman augurs in the hearings. This is in the sense that the augurs were afraid to look each other in the eye lest they burst out laughing, for they understood that deception and cheating they were engaging in.

The report contains florid turns of speech, where it describes how "democratic structures and principles are crystalizing," and a direct fabrication, where it maintains that in the past 6 months the Salvadoran secret police has been more "'concerned' about human rights" and has killed fewer people for political reasons than in the same period last year.

In general, this entire concoction of compliments addressed to the fascist junta and hypocritical statements that everything is OK "with human rights" in El Salvador can deceive only those who themselves wish to be deceived. Namely, those people in Washington who are prepared even without any false reports to deliver weapons to any dictator who has declared war on his own people in the name of the interests of American monopolies.

POLITBURO VIEWS FOREIGN POLICY, PARTY CONTROL

LD031615 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed at its meeting a number of foreign policy issues, among them measures aimed at consistent advancement of the initiative proposals of the Warsaw Treaty member states, which were elaborated at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee which was held in Prauge in January this year. Practical measures to further deepen and develop cooperation between the Soviet Union and the countries of Indochina were considered.

Some questions, linked with preparations for a summit economic conference of the CMEA member countries were discussed.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee heard a report on the work of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee in 1982.

MILITIA OFFICER DISCUSSES ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS

LD040013 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Interview with Militia Major General Nikolay (Sharankov) by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Nikolay Mikhaylovich, the concept of examplary order is applied today to each of us, regardless of where we live. The party has set the task of decisively eliminating everything that goes against the norms of Soviet society.

[Answer] Yes, and among those demands the issues of further strengthening law and order, eradicating antisocial actions and the causes and conditions which create them aquire special acuteness. Unfortunately actions counter to the communist ethic can still be found. Cases of hooligan actions, parasitism and there infringements of the socialist society's norms have not been eradicated. Exemplary order is formed above all as a result of normal family relations and of order in the street, in one's district and in town. As you quite rightly said, this concerns each of us. In our society there are not -- indeed there cannot be -- social causes for criminal behavior; but connivance and indifference often give rise to it. Undoubtedly each of us can recall instances when a hooligan created a wild scene in a bus. Unless there was someone present in a militia uniform few people were likely to stop him or do anything about him. This passivity and indifference will often lead to subsequent serious infringements of the law by such hooligan elements.

Our chief task is to prevent law-breaking, and to eliminate its causes. Those who work in the crime prevention service, and this means first and foremost local Militia inspectors, maintain permanent contacts with labor collectives and with the population at large. We believe that the local inspector's work can achieve positive results only when it is based on broad public assistance. In Moscow there are 650 public points for the protection of order. Some 15,000 Militia group volunteers patrol the city's streets every day. Great imporatnce attaches to the initiative advanced by those Muscovites who launched an appeal to step up the struggle for exemplary public order and to boost the role of the law enforcement organs and of the public at large and the people's Militia group volunteers in defense of the interests of the state and citizens' rights.

Of course, the basic task falls to us who work in law enforcement. But radical improvements in crime prevention are not possible without active assistance from the public at large and close collaboration between the militia and labor collectives. At this point I could cite examples of the work done by the Militia in such rayons of the capital as Kirovskiy, Krasnogvardeyskiy, Leninskiy and Krasno-Presnenskiy where crime has been reduced. No small merit attaches here to the lead given by party organizations, to those who man the public points for the protection of order and to the people's voluntary Militia groups.

[Question] Nikolay Mikhaylovich, one in eight Musocovites is now a member of a people's voluntary Militia group. This, of course, represents a large army of helpers. But unfortunately, as we know, not all of them are active in protecting public order.

[Answer] That is why there is now discussion, about qualitative restructuring of the work of every member of people's voluntary Militia groups and of every group itself. To this end many interesting forms have been worked out; for instance, specialization of the voluntary groups in such areas as crime prevention work with individuals, traffic safety, combatting parasitism, absenteeism, and drunkenness, and much more.

As is known, the public points for protection of order from the local organizing centers for the work of the voluntary Militia groups. You referred to members of these groups not taking their duties seriously. But that does not happen where local Militia inspectors instruct volunteers properly and assign them concrete tasks, check up on how well they have done their work, and go out on patrol together and give practical help to the volunteers in solving the problems that crop up while they are on duty. There is no shortage of examples of positive, well coordinated and precisely executed joint work by Militia volunteers and local Militia inspectors. In Kirovskiy, Dzerzhinskiy and Moskovoretskiy Rayons of the capital public points for protection of order have become real centers for local crime prevention work. Thanks to correct and rational organization of the work of local inspectors and Militia volunteers, what goes on here is not just patrolling the streets but also a large amount of education and crime prevention work -- watching and giving regular help and advice to difficult families, individually working with law breakers and with adolescents who need constant attention.

The closer the link between the Militia group volunteers and the Militia, the more successful is the struggle to combat negative behavior. Such cooperation raises the mutual sense of responsibility for law and order and ensures strict observance of socialist legality in relation to citizens. For this reason, the composition of people's voluntary Militia groups must be approached in such a way as to completely exclude from the ranks such passive, casual and especially indifferent people. By directing their best representatives into the people's voluntary Militia groups, labor collectives place great trust in them and charge them with playing an important part in public work. Strengthening legality and law and order is a task for the whole state and for the whole people; and it must be resolved by common efforts, and by using the strength of the law and the strength of public opinion.

REACTION TO ANDROPOV'S VISIT TO MOSCOW FACTORY

Plant Director's Praise

LD031848 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Interview by Yu. Chernyak with V.I. Komarov, director of a Kostroma Oblast textile plant: "Without Correction to the Plan"; from the Vremya newscast -- recorded]

[Text] The Krasnaya Tekstilshchitsa flax-processing combine in the town of Nerekhta is one of the oldest textile plants in Kostroma Oblast.

It is 136 years old. But in recent years there has been increasingly confident talk at the combine about its rebirth. This involves the substitution of advanced and highly productive equipment, construction of new blocks and a different organization of labor which immediately proved itself. There was more concern not only about working conditions but also about the everyday life of the textile workers. Youth were attracted to the shop floor. Almost one-third of the work force is made up of young people under 30. A new director has arrived; he is 34-year-old Valeriy Ivanovich Komarov and he took a new look at many things, starting with discipline, good organization and proper order at each workbench. The young director received support. The combine began running more confidently and stably; responsibility was enhanced. Since the start of this 5-year plan period alone production has gone up by more than 20 percent.

[Komarov] Basically this was achieved by introducing the brigade form of organizing the remuneration of labor. The introduction of this form, which now extends to the main body of workers with basic trades, provided us with the opportunity of increasing labor productivity by more than 30 percent.

[Chernyak] Over what period?

[Komarov] That is over 2 years, 1981 and 1982. The point was very well made at Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's meeting with Moscow machine tool builders that you will not meet the production plan for the enterprise with your leading lights alone; one must work to fulfill the plan, and fulfill set targets at each workbench. We have been engaged in that; otherwise we would not have been able to achieve such results.

Textile workers' hearts and souls support Yuriy Vladimirovich's speech on strengthening labor discipline and creating good working conditions at enterprises and improving living conditions. We are endeavoring to create the conditions for our workers. Over the 10th 5-Year Plan period we built 17,000 square meters of housing. Right now we are building a 150-apartment block; the majority of the apartments will go to young families. All our hopes are on young people.

For a long time we have not asked for our production plan to be corrected. On the contrary, in fact; in 1982 they gave us an extra 200,000 square meters of fabric to make and we coped with that successfully.

Workers Interviewed

LD022323 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast; report by Yevgeniy Sinitsyn from the Moscow Krasnyy Proletariy machine tool works]

[Text] The questions touched upon by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov at the meeting with the collective of the Sergo Ordzhonikidze works and the problems which were discussed at that meeting are of equal concern to all Soviet working people. In the final analysis it is a question of improving our life and strengthening peace on earth.

However, if one thinks about it, one can say that these global, vitally important problems are solved at every work place in everyday situations. It is constantly necessary to set this attitude as a standard for our responsibility, the personal responsibility of all to society and to the country. It is precisely these ideas that have come out of the conversation of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee with Moscow machine tool builders. This is what workers here at the Krasnyy Proletariy works are talking about today and naturally also at all other plants. [Camera shows worker with caption identifying him as lathe operator (Frolov)]

[Frolov] This is a very important matter. How it will be tackled depends on the people themselves.

[Camera shows worker with caption identifying him as lathe operator Shumilin]

[Shumilin] In my view, discipline in production must begin here at our works in the blanks shop. Go right through the forging shop, through machining of the component in question so that it arrives in time for assembly, and right up to the packing and dispatch of ready machine tools. Everything must be superbly coordinated and there must be no delays anywhere. Only then will there be completely normal production of machine tools without any hitches, without any idling, without any tense moments which come about only because sometimes, somewhere, someone, at some stage of the process lets something slip or holds something up. Then in the final stage there is not enough time to meet the deadline for the completion of the machine tools. This is my opinion.

[Sinitsyn] Yes, the cost of our output is still very high. Therefore it is so important to make it cheaper and without spending a rouble simply by putting one's house in order at all stages of production. Order: That means first and foremost discipline. Naturally, as Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov said, all our efforts will come to nothing if the struggle for discipline which is unfolding should skid along the surface, should get bogged down in trifles: somebody is 5 minutes late, another is habitually late... Naturally, one cannot praise them for it.

It is a question of a serious attitude toward all aspects of production discipline, including the technological process, supplies, etc. These are very important matters.

Also, there are still many situations where, for example, there are people who are always on time, but their results are very low. Obviously, this is also a question of discipline.

[Shumilin] You are right, of course but I would like to add: for a man to strictly abide by discipline, he must love his job. Then he will constantly maintain this high level of production discipline. On the other hand, even if a man (?puts up a show of) not infringing discipline -- he does not come late and leaves work on time -- it still does not mean that he is a good worker. After all, he comes to fulfill a set production task. Only when he actually does this can he be regarded as truly disciplined.

[Sinitsyn] Yes, this idea must be emphasized. Only he who has fulfilled the set task, who has made a considerable contribution to production in general is disciplined. This is what life demands.

PRAVDA Editorial

PM040921 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "At Every Workplace"]

[Text] New names of glorious representatives of the working class and peasantry who have been awarded Orders of Labor Glory First Class for their great achievements have been inscribed in the annals of all-union competition. They include S. Sizykh, tunneler at the Kuzbass Yubileynaya mine, team leader V. Kochetov from the Gorkiy Oblast Dzerzhinskiy construction trust No 4, milkmaids Ya. Belskene from the Lithuanian SSR, A. Dyusyumbekova from Kazakhstan, and L. Gadalova from the Moscow region -- in all, 37 of the very best. In the shock vigil honoring the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, they, like millions of other urban and rural workers, set an example of effective work, the economical use of raw material and energy resources, endeavor and strong discipline. That is precisely how -- by deeds -- Soviet people are backing up the party decisions aimed at further developing the country's economy.

A graphic expression of this unanimous support was the meeting between Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the Moscow machine tool builders. It convinces us that the decisions of the Central Committee November (1982) plenum have met with a lively response in labor collectives and that our party can firmly rely on the working class and all the country's workers in implementing the set tasks.

The leading workers are the Pioneers, the beacons by which we are guided. But the set tasks cannot be resolved merely through the efforts of the leading workers alone. It is important that every person take part in improving work and fulfill his norm and his production target. The CPSU Central Committee November plenum noted that the experience of the leading workers is one of the reserves for further improving production and ameliorating economic indicators. To put it more fully at the service of the 5-year plan, daily organizational and political work in collectives and a specific approach toward matters are needed.

Many Moscow collectives set an example of such an approach. The initiative of the capital's leading enterprises, which have launched a movement for the consolidation of labor and production discipline, is meeting with a broad response among urban and rural workers. The valuable initiative must be supported in a businesslike manner, proceeding from the premise that this is a long-term, multifaceted task. The Moscow Gorkom, for instance, has suggested that raykoms and primary party organizations heed working people's suggestions and comments more attentively and assume control of the fulfillment of measures to introduce order in production. The Communists of many enterprises and construction sites in Leningrad, Kiev, and Minsk are backing up this initiative with practical deeds.

In strengthening order in production it is important to teach people on the basis of the example of the best, of those who, without waiting for instructions from above, persistently seek their reserves and put them into operation. "We need conscious worker discipline which will move production forward," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted at his meeting with the Moscow machine tool builders. "We must give the struggle for discpline great expression and link it directly with the fulfillment of production targets...."

It is hard to overestimate in this connection the initiative of the team of rolling press operators from the Karaganda S. Drozhzhin metallurgical combine, who launched competition under the slogan "For a high return at every workplace." The initiative was supported by the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, which recommended that the local party and trade union organizations and economic leaders adopt the experience of the leading team in mastering related professions, organizing study and introducing scientific labor organization.

In supporting initiatives from below, it must be borne in mind that success does not always depend only on the ordinary worker. Sometimes obstacles arise with which he cannot cope: either billets have not arrived in time or the necessary instrument is not there. As a result labor enthusiasm wanes and time is wasted. The losses from this confusion are most frequently met from the state's pocket. That is why in their letters to PRAVDA working people suggest establishing daily worker control over order in production and making more strictly answerable those who do not want or do not know how to organize labor and who turn a blind eye to disorder. The question of strengthening discipline affects everyone -- from worker to minister -- and the effect should have a beneficial impact on all production links without exception.

Today team forms [of organization] with the distribution of wages on the basis of each worker's real contribution, are becoming increasingly widespread. Practice convinces us that in such collectives even novices rapidly find their place, the mentor system is more effective, and there is an active exchange of the best experience. The team councils elected by the workers influence the improvement of the organization and quality of labor by their authority and trust and know how to stand up for the collective's interests.

There are many models of precise, harmonious work, they exist in any sector of the national economy. But there are also instances of a different kind. Useful experience does not always find a way into every shop, to every workplace. Thus, at the Armelektroapparat association, the Navoy cement combine (Uzbek SSR), and the UFA oil refinery full use is not being made of the advantages of comprehensive and integral process teams and many workers do not have personal plans for raising labor productivity. Specialists there offer only feeble assistance to workers in the technical substantiation of their pledges and the combination of two jobs. In some collectives violators of discipline feel at ease and there are many cases of absenteeism and time off with the administration's permission.

The party organizations are called on to give a principled assessment of these instances, to help the collectives in eliminating shortcomings and give every encouragement to those who are seeking to work better.

The start of the year is a time when the collectives assume new socialist pledges. A good sign of the present day is that the working people plan to scale new heights at every workplace. In particular through widespread support for the Muscovites' initiative, the consolidation of labor discipline, and the search for and use of additional production reserves. The communists are called on to be in the fore, to set an example of industry and a creative approach toward the matter in hand.

METALLURGISTS PLAN IMPROVED LABOR DISCIPLINE

LD040022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Honor the worker according to his work: at our microphone is a worker at the Zaporozhstal metallurgical works, Hero of Socialist Labor Vladimir Aleksandrovich Orlov. The metallurgists of the Zaporozhstal works fully support the Muscovites' initiative of honor the worker according to his work [po trudu i chest].

The materials of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum mentioned that the country's metallurgists are not working as well as could be wished; the primary reason is violation of production, labor and technological discipline.

At the present time, intensive educative work is being carried out with offenders and persons with a proclivity toward violating labor and production discipline. Every week in the workshop there is a session of the council for the prevention of law violations to which violators are summoned -- drunkards, absentees, violators of public order -- with their direct superiors: foremen. Discussion at the council, it must be said, is very serious, and we have already achieved positive results. We are now organizing the work of a comrades' court and council of mentors.

The struggle to strengthen labor discipline and successfully fulfill the plan and socialist obligations takes on special significance for us metallurgists in view of the fact that in November of this year, our works, Zaporozhstal, marks its 50th anniversary. The collective has initiated a campaign entitled: "The highly productive work of each is the guarantee of the success of the whole collective.

We are making every effort to improve matters in the shop and shall worthily meet the jubilee of our beloved works.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON TASKS OF SERVICES SPHERE

PM031403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Communists in the Services Sphere"]

[Excerpts] Much is being done in our country for the growth of the population's prosperity and the improvement of their services. The plans for the USSR's Economic and Social Development and the State Budget for 1983 show that concern for man and his well-being remain a most important party program guideline. Our output of goods is growing and the services sphere is improving.

However, as letters to PRAVDA indicate, people frequently still encounter deficiencies in services and often the work schedule of consumer service enterprises is not convenient for them. In order to obtain a particular service, it is sometimes necessary to ask for time off work and to lose valuable hours of labor. The situation is manifestly abnormal. There are many criticisms of interruptions in the sale of a number of goods although they are available at the depots, and there are breaches of the rules of trade.

The questions of strengthening out the operation of enterprises, organizations and establishments in the services sphere were recently examined by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. The USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution on regulating the operation of the services sphere, improving organization and strengthening order and discipline within it. The task has been set of satisfying more fully and to a better standard Soviet people's requirements and needs without detriment to their production activity. It is the duty of ministries and departments, enterprise leaders and party organizations to implement on schedule the practical measures laid down by party and government to introduce due order into the work of enterprises, organizations and establishments engaged in serving the population. This is an important state task.

Communists are the leaders of the masses and it is their duty to take note of what is new and advanced in labor organization and technology and reveal reserves in the services sphere. Good experience exists everywhere; it is only necessary to assess it in good time and to support and disseminate it. Let us ask the following question: The task has been set of providing the countryside with a range of services. Comprehensive reception centers and consumer service centers and mobile stores help to solve this problem, ease the kolkhoz members' household concerns and save them time. The creation of such service centers is being completed in Belorussia, Lithuania, Latvia and Armenia. But in Tajikistan only one-third of kolkhozes and sovkhozes have reception centers and consumer service centers. People must travel to the cities for consumer services.

In the eighties it is planned to appropriate approximately R160 billion for the social restructuring of the countryside, the improvement of trade and consumer services and the construction of stores, clubs, schools, preschool establishments, hospitals and pharmacies. This is not only a large figure but also a large policy aimed at erasing the essential social differences between city and countryside. This is a broad field of activity for rural Communists.

The question of strengthening the policy of thrift and reducing losses in the services sphere is acute today. What is the main thing here? It is necessary to decrease expenditure of material, fuel, energy and financial resources and to reduce waste and production and distribution costs. Packaging materials, containers and transport should be used better. The task is to intensify the struggle against mismanagement, wastefulness and the misappropriation of socialist property.

CPSU members cannot overlook disorders and abuses; it is their statutory duty to wage a struggle against breaches of the laws and rules which govern the sector. It is important that the party organizations of enterprises in the services sphere make fuller use of their right of controlling the administration's activity and support more worker control energetically.

Communists who are experts in the field, and who demand at the same time considerate comrades, must instruct young people in working standards in the services sphere. Recently many young men and women have come into it on Komsomol warrants. It is essential to help them to become masters of service.

The party organs' duty is to raise the militancy of primary party organizations and the activeness of each Communist. The services sphere should be particularly carefully reinforced with competent, enterprising cadres and concern must be shown for their ideological and political training and for fostering in them a feeling of high responsibility for the work entrusted to them. When it comes to Soviet people's living conditions and health there are no petty matters, everything is of the greatest importance. Consumer service workers are entrusted with a crucial area. They are called upon to create greater comforts for Soviet people and to help them make life richer and more colorful, to work more efficiently and with greater output and to cherish every working minute.

FRG AUTHOR REPORTS SAKHAROV IN 'SERIOUS DANGER'

LD021610 Hamburg DPA in German 1422 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Cologne, 2 Feb (DPA) -- The Soviet Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrey Sakharov, who has been banned to Gorkiy for the last 3 years by the country's authorities, is in "serious danger," according to reliable information from author Heinrich Boell. Boell told DPA today in Cologne that the "latest, authentic information" led him to "fear the worst" for the seriously ill 61-year-old Sakharov and his wife.

According to Boell, Sakharov is the subject of "harassment, molestations and threats that possibly do not always reach the attention of the guards' superiors." The 3-year isolation alone is enough to "destroy Sakharov's spiritual and moral strength." The arbitrary acts to which he has been exposed are becoming a threat to his life. Sakharov has been deprived of any possibility to work and, by "nasty tricks," has been robbed of his private notes. He is living in a state of complete lack of rights.

In addition, Boell drew attention to the situation of author Georgiy Vladimov, who has been "harrassed" for weeks. In spite of a serious heart complaint, he was "dragged in for questioning" and his flat was search.

NEW UKRAINE FIRST DEPUTY PREMIER APPOINTED

AU031152 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has resolved to appoint Comrade Yevgeniy Viktorovich Kachalovskiy first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES MEDIA CONFERENCE IN KIEV

AU031155 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukranian 1800 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] A conference of leaders and party secretaries in the republic's mass media organs was held recently in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee to discuss the question of further raising the ideopolitical level and effectiveness of publications in newspapers, magazines, television and radio, and of consolidating their role in mobilizing Communists and all working people for implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress and of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum.

Participating in the conference proceedings were Comrade Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politbruo and first secretary of the Ukrianian Communist Party Central Committee; Titarenko, Kachura and Mozgovoy, members and secretaries of the Committee Politburo; Kapto and Pogrebnyak, candidate members and secretaries of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo; and department chiefs in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy delivered a speech at the conference. He emphasized the principled importance of the theses and conclusions set forth in the speech by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee, at the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum and in his report on the 60th anniversary of the USSR, as well as in the Political Declaration adopted in Prague by Warsaw Pact member-states, for further intensifying the entire political, publicity and propaganda work. The way to its improvement lies through the convincing and conrete display of our achievements and through the earnest scrutiny of new problems constantly emerging in life. In the light of the increased requirements, mass media organs must critically assess the character and substance of their activity, must have a careful look to find what works for the common cause and what is to be resolutely given up, and must find forms and methods of work producing maximum returns.

Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy gave the journalists an account of the progress made by the republic in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, and delineated the main results of the second year of the 11th 5-year period and the subsequent tasks.

Participating in the discussion on problems concerning further improvements in the activity of mass media organs were Serobaba, RADYANSKA UKRAINA editor; Okhmakevich, chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; [Burlay], RATAU director; (?Nivelitskiy), KOMMUNIST UKRAINY magazine chief editor; Kirilko, party organization secretary in ROBITNYCHA GAZETA; and Barvinok, KULTURA I ZHYTTYA editor.

The conference was addressed by Titarenko, member and second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo; and Kapto, candidate member and secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo.

The departments of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and the appropriate Ukrainian ministries and departments were given concrete instructions for (?complying with) the proposals and recommendations voiced at the conference.

REPUBLIC CSA'S ASSESS 1982 ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

RSFSR Results

PM031657 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 83 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Russia's Labor Rhythm"]

[Text] The RSFSR working people, fulfilling the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, ensured in 1982 -- the USSR's 60th anniversary year -- further growth in social production and in the people's well-being, states the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration report on the results of fulfillment of the State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the RSFSR in 1982.

Production efficiency increased. A saving of 1.6 million people was obtained through the increased productivity of social labor: raw materials, materials, fuel, energy and other objects of labor valued at more than R3 billion were saved. At the same time in some sectors the rate of growth of labor productivity was lower than planned and targets for saving material resources were not fulfilled.

The amended annual plan for the volume of output sales in industry was fulfilled. The increase in production against 1981 was 2.5 percent. Labor productivity rose 2.2 percent; 88 percent of the increase in production was secured on this basis.

The annual plan for the extraction of oil (including gas condensate), gas and iron ore and the production of chemical products and other types of output was overfulfilled.

At the same time the plan for the production of mineral fertilizers, chemical fibers and yarns, forging and pressing machines, chemical equipment and certain other types of output was not fulfilled. Some individual production associations and enterprises did not fulfill the plans laid down for overall volume of output, growth in labor productivity and profit, reduction in prime cost of output, and targets in scientific and technical programs.

The republic's agricultural workers, fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum, despite unfavorable weather conditions, achieved an increase in gross agricultural output; its volume increased by R4.4 billion compared with the previous year, totaling $58.1 billion.

Considerably more grain was harvested and purchased than in 1981. There was a significant increase in purchases of potatoes, vegetables, sugar beets, sunflower seeds and flax fiber. Much more fodder of all types was procured than in the previous year.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are preparing for the spring sowing.

At the same time work to bring seed into sowing condition and repair machinery is taking place only slowly on a number of farms.

Agroindustrial integration and interfarm cooperation were further developed. In 1982 more than 4,000 interfarm enterprises and organizations and more than 300 production agroindustrial, agricultural and science-and-production associations were in operation in the RSFSR.

Freight turnover in all types of general purpose transport totaled 4.4 trillion ton-kilometers and increased by 0.4 percent compared with 1981.

Fixed capital with a total value of more than R87 billion was commissioned in the RSFSR national economy.

In 1982 measures in social development and in improving the people's well-being were implemented. Measures were implemented to step up state aid to families with children. From all sources of finance, 1.2 million apartments were built, with a total area of more than 61 million square meters. More than 5.7 million people had improved housing conditions. Medical services and organized leisure for the population were extended.

On 1 January 1983 the population of the RSFSR was 141 million.

Other Republics

LD040957 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] The Central Statistical Administrations of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Lithuania have summed up the results of the development of these republics over the past year.

The plan for marketing industrial production in these republics has been fulfilled. Production growth in the Ukraine amounted to 2.7 percent; in Belorussia, two-thirds of the growth was obtained by raising productivity.

Uzbekistan, as foreseen by the pledges, sold 6 million tons of cotton to the state. In Kazakhstan, about 6 million square meters of residential floor space were constructed during the year. Farmers in Georgia achieved an increase in the production of many types of output. In Azerbaijan, labor productivity grew by 3.9 percent. Electrical engineering, machine building and metalworking developed rapidly in Lithuania.

In the Central Statistical Administration reports of the union republics emphasize that during the 2d year of the 5-year plan, a raise of people's well-being is ensured.

NEW AKTAU PORT FACILITIES TO ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS

LD021624 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 2 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Summary] In a recent Vremya program the problems of Aktau port on the eastern seaboard of the Caspian Sea were highlighted. The trouble was that the port was not coping with the volume of transportation of Mangyshlak oil. The USSR Ministry of the Oil Industry has replied saying criticism of the port's work was justified. The need to expand Aktau port is obvious because oil extraction on the Buzachi Peninsula is to exceed in 1983 alone the existing capacities of the bulk-oil wharves.

The USSR Ministry of the Oil Industry and the Merchant Marine have made a proposal to the USSR Gosplan to include the construction of the new complex at Aktau in the 1985 plan and to set aside additional funds for this purpose.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 30 JAN-3 FEB REPORTED

LD040409 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian from 30 January to 3 February. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

30 January

Land improvers in Krasnoyarsk Kray are to bring 100,000 hectares of irrigated land and 3,000 hectares of drained land into agricultural use this year. Reconstruction of the Abakan irrigation system, the biggest in the kray, is in progress. (1630 GMT)

31 January

Machine operators in Altay have carried out snow retention work on 2 million hectares. They are using new technology to buildup winter moisture on a wide scale. Instead of the usual for example, snow compactors designed by local craftsmen are being used instead of snow plows. This makes it possible to achieve high rates of productivity. (0104 GMT)

Kirgizia agricultural workers are concerned with repairing machinery and irrigation networks, preparing seeds and applying fertilizer to winter crops. Machine operators in the Chu Valley have completed repairs on sowing and cultivating machinery ahead of plan. The farms of Issyk-Kul Oblast have prepared good conditions for cereal crop seeds. Mass procurement of organic fertilizers is now underway. Over 1 million tons of organic fertilizer has been applied on the fields; 180,000 hectares of cereal and grain crops as well as perennial grasses have been treated with mineral fertilizers. (0700 GMT)

Land improvers in the Crimea are completing spring preparations. They have handed over an additional 10,000 hectares of irrigated land to the oblast's farms. The bed of the Severo Krymskiy canal is being widened and covered with concrete so that deeper water will pass along it. The second stage of the canal is reaching ever further into the steppe. (0900 GMT)

1 February

Snow retention work has been carried out on all of the arable land in Northern Kazakhstan Oblast. In all, snow retention has been carried out on 14 million hectares of arable land in the oblast.

Ryazan Oblast has completed repair work on soil-tilling and sowing equipment. This year in the Ukraine, corn will be sown on almost 2.5 million hectares. That is 600,000 hectares more than last year. (0200 GMT)

Bukhara Oblast farms have been receiving irrigation water along a reconstructed section of the Amu-Bukharskiy Canal; a second stage is to be renewed. The canal's capacity will be increased by 75 cubic meters per second, which will allow this spring's sown area to be increased. Farms in southern Ukraine have received the first trial batch of harvesting and sorting machines and vegetable combines. (1200 GMT)

2 February

Farms in the Mari Assr Non-Chernozem Zone have all of their tilling equipment and potato planters ready.

Repair of seed drills, tractors and field units is coming to an end. Omsk Oblast farms will be able to work on two-three shifts this spring, thanks to training for specialists. (0304 GMT)

3 February

Omsk Oblast farmers are carrying out snow retention work on the third million hectares. (0304 GMT)

In Uzbekistan, 98 percent of the agricultural produce is obtained on irrigated land. Specialists forecast that this will be a poor water year because their is little snow in the Pamir and Tyan Shan areas. A total of 6 billion cubic meters of water has been accumulated to date in about 20 water reservoirs. This is about 500 million more than last year, but it is still not enough. The republic's water reserviors were fully used last year. There was practically no reserve water. More than 2,000 kilometers of canals are to be concreted, 134 additional pumping stations and 30 small water reservoirs will be built and 320 water wells will be drilled. (1200 GMT)

Stavropol Kray has a total of 385,000 hectares of irrigated land. Because of a very dry autumn and an almost snowless winter in some krays' rayons, winter barley and wheat gave bad sprouts. (1200 GMT)

The ususually warm weather in Moldavia has made it possible to begin spring work. Grain growers in the southern rayons of the republic have begun moisture retention and soil leveling work. The spring crop fields in Moldavia now exceed 1.1 million hectares. In Tajikistan, sovkhozes and kolkhozes have allotted over 300,000 hectares to cotton. Machine operators in the southern rayons will begin sowing fodder crops in the next few days. (1630 GMT)

Agricultural workers of Takjikistan are completing spring sowing preparations. The republic's statistics service reports that machine operators have cleaned almost 65 percent of the irrigation, collecting and drainage network to date. (1900 GMT)

The majority of Moldavian farms have completed repairing machinery for spring work; 90 percent of the tractor pool has already been repaired and all sowing and cultivating machines have been repaired.